

Miners to hold vital individual ballot

By Donald Macintyre

The National Union of Mineworkers Yorkshire Area Council yesterday bowed before a High Court ruling and agreed to hold an individual ballot to fill a vacancy on the union's national executive.

But at the same time it approved the appointment of Mr Sammy Thompson, a left-winger and the area's present vice-president, as the new general secretary to succeed Mr Owen Briscoe, who leaves in November after holding the post for 12 years.

The moves mean that Mr John Walsh, the moderate North Yorkshire area agent now has a fresh chance to run for the national executive after securing the ruling from Mr Justice Walton 10 days ago that the union was in conflict with its own new rule book by holding a branch vote to decide the election.

But the decision also blocks Mr Walsh from running for the key post of general secretary. The area council formally accepted a national executive decision that the union could not afford to sustain eight full-time officials in Yorkshire, including the four area agents, and would henceforth fund only seven.

Mr Taylor said that the area council had agreed "with reluctance" to merge two of the four present full-time jobs.

Mr Walsh, who was accused at one point during yesterday's meeting of "carpetbagging" said he had deliberately set out to take the union to court and land it with legal costs.

"If the branch ballot had been held up to allow me to go through the union's grievance procedure, then I made it clear that I would have abided by whatever decision was reached at the end of that procedure. But I was not given the chance."

Mr Walsh will now run against Mr Thompson for the executive seat, the third held by Yorkshire on the union's national ruling body. The other posts are held by Mr Brian Dakin a lay member and by Mr Taylor who is Yorkshire president.

Shortlist victory for union's left

By David Felton

An internal political struggle over the succession for the leadership of Britain's largest union took a fresh turn yesterday when left wingers succeeded in getting their candidate reinstated on a shortlist.

The executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union rejected a shortlist drawn up last week which did not include Mr Bill Morris, the official who deals with the busmen's section. The left grouping in the union wants to see Mr Morris as the first black union general secretary.

A meeting of the executive today will interview nine candidates for the two posts available, the deputy and assistant general secretaries. The left strategy has been that if Mr Morris were appointed deputy secretary he would be firm favourite to take over the top job when Mr Ron Todd retires within the next five years.

The shortlist of five candidates that excluded Mr Morris was drawn up on Friday by the finance and general purposes committee of one of the union's regional divisions. It is understood that the left won a narrow vote at yesterday's executive meeting to have all the nine candidates interviewed.

That move was seen as a blow to the hopes of Mr Joe Mills, the northern regional secretary, who blotted his copybook with the left because of his early support for Mr George Wright in the contest with Mr Todd for the general secretaryship.

£10m for Ravenscraig

By Clifford Webb

The British Steel Corporation is to invest £10 million in a new coal injection plant at the Ravenscraig steel works in Lanarkshire.

Another £5 million will be spent on other projects, including silica welding works to extend the life of the Ravenscraig coke ovens.

The decision was announced by Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of BSC, when he met Sir Hector Monro, chairman of the Scottish group of backbench Tory MPs, to discuss the future of the steel works.

Liverpool unions call for indefinite strike in fight against job cuts

Liverpool faces chaos next week after a call from union leaders representing the city council's workers for an indefinite strike. Shop stewards last night demanded all-out industrial action starting on Monday week.

Mass meetings will be held this week to allow the authority's 30,000 employees to vote on the strike call. Mr Ian Lowes, the chairman of the joint shop stewards committee predicted widespread support for a stoppage. He said: "We believe we now have to take this fight to the Tory government and demand the £30 million back of the £350 million that has been stolen."

Asked if it was legal to call a strike this way, Mr Lowes said: "I don't know and I don't particularly care. He said he wants workers in the private sector and in other local authorities to carry out disruptive action in sympathy."

Mr Derek Hatton, deputy leader of Liverpool City Council, said: "This is a major city taking on the Tory government. The Tory government cannot ignore that sort of pressure."

Earlier yesterday, Mr Hatton was among leading Labour councillors who joined a picket line outside Liverpool Town Hall after calling off a meeting to discuss plans to send redundancy notices to all 30,000 of the authority's staff.

The behaviour of the council's workers highlighted the growing confusion surrounding the council's lone battle with the Government. When they arrived and found that they were being locked out by the pickets, they called off the meeting and joined the protest.

Sir Trevor Jones, leader of the minority Liberal group of councillors, said: "They are behaving like a pantomime horse where the back does not know what the front is doing."

Mr Hatton said: "What this morning shows is an absolute determination from the Labour group and the trade unions not to make cuts in jobs and services. We are not prepared to do Thatcher's dirty work for her."

But there were clear signs that latent disagreement between unions representing council workers had come to the surface. Behind the orchestrated fury against government spending cuts lay a difference between manual unions close to council leaders and the white collar members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO).

Mr Tony Byrne, Labour chairman of the council's finance committee, said: "The trade unions, and NALGO in particular, would not understand the technical device we wanted to use as being a technical device."

Sir Trevor declared later: "The Labour Party called this meeting, and the purpose was to approve a motion moved by Councillor Hatton that after December 18 contracts of employment for the workforce would no longer exist."

He claimed that the Labour leaders of the council and unions close to the council were in dispute after two years of harmony.

The council's Labour leaders are campaigning for more government aid, similar to the minor concessions gained from Mr Patrick Jenkin when he was Secretary of State for the Environment last year.

But his successor, Mr Kenneth Baker, emphasized yesterday that there was nothing on offer for the city. "It is up to the council to put things right. It can do this by deciding to live within its means like the other 412 authorities in England."

The abandonment of yesterday's meeting puts in doubt the council's ability to borrow to plug the £80m gap between its rate income and its planned spending. If the council cannot borrow, it faces financial collapse before the end of the month.

Liverpool is the only one of the 20 Labour councils which began the rates rebellion last year to operate a clearly defined deficit budget.

Mr Tony Byrne, chairman of the Liverpool finance committee, rejected a Conservative plan to raise more money by bringing forward about £25 million allocated for next year's budget. It would bring down Government penalties for spending too much and win the council enough additional spending power to plug the budget gap.

Liverpool is one of two Labour councils where members have been issued with a surplusage notice for "willful misconduct" in connection with the rates rebellion. The other is Lambeth in south London.

Manchester City Council is planning to change its budget system to penalise richer areas in favour of poorer ones. It is part of a long-term plan to decentralise local services by relocating them in districts; 1986 money for services like education, housing and refuse collection will be dispersed according to the relative wealth of each ward.

Mr Martin said after the hearing: "There are a lot of people in our situation and we may have done something for them."

The department's chief adjudication officer will appeal to social security commissioners against the tribunal's decision, the department said last night. "The tribunal's findings apply only to the individuals concerned," it said.

A spokesman for Shelter, the housing pressure group, said: "The decision exposes the new board and lodging rules as a complete sham. The Government ought now to think again and come up with more humane and sensible alternatives."



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Acas talks to unions in teachers' dispute

By Lucy Hodges

Education Correspondent

The conciliation service, Acas, has made informal contact with the teachers' unions about the possibility of its involvement in their pay dispute. The employers' associations will also be reviewing their positions after the breakdown of pay talks last week.

All sides will be keen to show they are doing something as the damaging dispute intensifies, although there are few signs of anything important happening soon. The employers may want to make another attempt to break the deadlock before October 11, the deadline set by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, for his extra money for restructuring, and a new definition of teachers' duties.

The policy committee of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which dominates the employers' side of the bargaining committee, meets today. There is a meeting of the full association tomorrow. The Association of County Councils' education committee also meets this week, but is expected to discuss the dispute confidentially.

The Local Authorities Conditions of Service Advisory Board, which services the employers' side, has written to all local authorities about the outcome of the Burnham committee meeting last Thursday. It explained that the formal offer to the teachers of 5.85 per cent for this year was rejected.

The teachers had also been asked how they would react to an offer of 6.9 per cent, the rate of inflation at that time, conditional on talks about restructuring. They had rejected that too.

The employers are keen to lay their hands on Sir Keith's extra money, which will be withdrawn if the October 11 deadline passes without an agreement on teachers' duties.

The N.U.T., yesterday increased its industrial action with a two-week campaign of regional half-day strikes, rallies and demonstrations, that will include almost every school in England and Wales at some stage.

The second largest union, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, will stage indefinite selective strikes in schools in 22 authorities. It will call out only key members, calculated to cause the maximum disruption.

The jobs of about 7,500 British Aerospace workers at five factories are at risk as many thousands of dozens of equipment suppliers will be laid off by a £3 billion Saudi Arabian contract for British aircraft and weapons.

The order for 48 Tornado fighter aircraft will be the second export contract for the tri-nation aircraft, eight of the air defence variants (ADV) having been ordered by Oman in a £250 million deal.

Tornados are built by Panavia, the consortium of BAE, MBB of West Germany and Aeronautica. The British and Germans each hold 42.5 per cent of Panavia.

BAE makes the cockpit and rear fuselage of the Tornado, the Germans the centre fuselage and the Italians the wings. Final assembly of aircraft for each country's air forces is done on the three locations, with BAE assembling at Warton in Lancashire. The Tornado is fitted with the RB199 engine produced by Rolls-Royce, MTU of Germany and Fiat of Italy.

Two versions of the variable geometry, all-weather Tornado are in production, with total deliveries since the first aircraft flew in 1979 totalling 400 from an order book of 809.

Production of the BAE Hawk jet trainer will receive a considerable boost from the Saudi order. The present order book of 303 has almost all been delivered and some BAE workers have been transferred to Harrier assembly.

About 2,500 BAE staff are involved in Hawk work at Kingston and Dunsfold in Surrey. Hamble, near Southampton, and Brough in Humbershire.

The likelihood of Saudi Arabia paying a big part of the £3 billion in oil will, ironically, perpetuate a regular trading practice which Saudi Arabia has been trying to stop within the 13-member Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (David Young, Energy Correspondent writes).

Opec has argued that a country taking the oil always inflates the price of goods involved to cover the cost of taking the oil and trading it on the spot markets.

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Couple win appeal over benefit limit

By Thomson Prentice

The Government's policy towards restricting the board and lodging payments to young unemployed on supplementary benefit suffered another setback yesterday.

A young couple won their appeal against the new cash limits. A Department of Health and Social Security tribunal decided that the couple should have their full bed and breakfast charges paid by the department.

The department had earlier refused to pay Mr Franklin Martin, aged 23, and Mrs Pauline Smith, aged 20, the full costs of their £105-a-week room in a west London hotel, leaving them £25.90 a week short of the rent.

The couple no longer face eviction from the Venus Hotel, in Westbourne Grove, and the tribunal's decision could set a precedent for other claimants.

Seven weeks ago, the High Court ruled that the Government had acted illegally in designating areas in which payments for young unemployed claimants under the age of 26 were limited to periods ranging from two to eight weeks. A government appeal against that ruling will be heard in November.

Tebbit turns on Labour pension plan

By Philip Webster

Political Reporter

Mr Norman Tebbit yesterday laid some of the ground for the new general election campaign with an accusation that the Labour Party was out to rob the pensioners with its investment plans.

In a speech to the party's constituency agents at the Carlton Club, London, the new Conservative chairman launched an outspoken onslaught against the central plank of Labour's new partnership deal with the Trade Unions over economic policy, its plans to encourage city institutions and pension funds to invest in a new National Investment Bank and to curb overseas investment.

He accused Labour of "stinking hypocrisy" in posing as the "pensioners' friend."

Labour is still well ahead of the Conservatives and the Alliance, according to an opinion poll last night in *The London Standard*. The poll, taken by MORI mainly before the SDP conference in Torquay, put Labour at 37 per cent, with the Conservative and Alliance vote each at 31 per cent.

Saudi weapons order boost for jobs

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

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Promise wins baby killer freedom

A judge yesterday kept his promise to a convicted child killer that he would not go to prison if he behaved himself.

In another court a father was jailed for five years for battering his newly born daughter.

The judge who kept his promise was Mr Justice Peter Pain who told Steven Paul Newman, aged 19, when he released him on bail to a probation hostel in July that if he did well there he would not be jailed.

The judge in the high court in London, yesterday placed him on probation for three years after hearing reports that Newman had "settled down well" at the hostel in Suffolk.

The court was told that Newman, of Warmminster, Wiltshire, was convicted at Bristol Crown Court of the manslaughter of his step-daughter Hannah, aged six weeks, who was born to his wife by another man before their marriage.

In Liverpool Crown Court Graham Hamblett, aged 23, of Anfield, Liverpool, was jailed for five years, for causing his prematurely born daughter, Sarah, grievous bodily harm.

The court was told that the child had suffered seven skull fractures by the time she was five weeks old. Now her skull is not developing properly and doctors fear her brain may have been impaired.

Hamblett said he had dropped the child off his knee, but medical witnesses said the injuries were more consistent with punches to the head.

Man charged after siege

Police last night carried a man after five people were held in a siege at Barry police station, South Wales.

Peter Lane, aged 52, of Penrice Road, Barry, will appear at Cowbridge Magistrates' Court today, charged with causing grievous bodily harm to Mr Trevor Thompson and possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life.

Mr Thompson is recovering in Cardiff Royal Infirmary from hand and arm injury. Four other people, including two ambulance crew members, spent nearly five hours locked inside the police station cells during an incident.

Interview report for the DPP

The police were preparing a report yesterday for the Director of Public Prosecutions after interviewing four people about the killing in Hampstead, north London, on New Year's Eve of the Greek fashion businessman, Mr Aristos Constantinou.

The three men and a woman were released yesterday after being questioned at a police station in north London since Sunday.

Caring Tories

A new group to improve the Conservative Party's contacts with workers in the social services was launched yesterday in London. The chairman of the party's Social Affairs Forum will be Dame Joan Combe, vice president of the Conservative National Union.

Shooting claim

A Scot who had his jaw broken by a plastic bullet fired by a soldier in Belfast was yesterday awarded a substantial compensation. Mr Francis Johnston, aged 39, of Greenfield Street, Provanhill, Glasgow, is understood to have received about £15,000.

Search for child

The police will search antiques and records along Great Yarmouth promenade today for Leonie Keating, aged three, who vanished three days ago from her mother's holiday caravan. The mother said that her daughter was attracted to bright lights.

'Hit man' twist

The belief that a "hit man" may have earned out the killings of Mrs Sheila Caffell, a part-time model, and her family have been strengthened by the discovery of a bloodstained gun silencer at the farmhouse in Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex.

Tour firm goes

Trathens, the holiday firm based in Plymouth, Devon, went into receivership yesterday, making 150 employees redundant. Holidaymakers will be able to claim back their money through the Association of British Travel Agents.

Chess record

Erik Knoppers, of Utrecht, broke the world record for non-stop chess games in London yesterday, contesting 500 consecutive games in 68 hours against opponents, who included grandmasters.

Correction

Young's Seafoods are part of the Imperial group and not Grand Times yesterday.

The Times overseas selling prices

Algeria 80c, Argentina 80c, Australia 80c, Belgium 80c, Brazil 80c, Canada 80c, Chile 80c, Colombia 80c, Costa Rica 80c, Cuba 80c, Denmark 80c, Ecuador 80c, Egypt 80c, Finland 80c, France 80c, Germany 80c, Greece 80c, Hong Kong 80c, India 80c, Indonesia 80c, Italy 80c, Japan 80c, Korea 80c, Kuwait 80c, Lebanon 80c, Libya 80c, Luxembourg 80c, Malaysia 80c, Mexico 80c, Morocco 80c, New Zealand 80c, Norway 80c, Pakistan 80c, Panama 80c, Paraguay 80c, Peru 80c, Philippines 80c, Portugal 80c, Saudi Arabia 80c, Singapore 80c, South Africa 80c, Spain 80c, Sri Lanka 80c, Sweden 80c, Switzerland 80c, Taiwan 80c, Thailand 80c, Turkey 80c, U.K. 80c, U.S.A. 80c, Venezuela 80c, West Germany 80c, Yugoslavia 80c.

Empty desks and protesters greet headmaster in race dispute

From Peter Davenport, Bradford

Mr Ray Honeyford, the headmaster who was suspended six months ago in a dispute over his views on multi-racial education, returned to his school yesterday to find protesters outside the gates and more than half his pupils absent.

Noisy demonstrators called for Mr Honeyford to be dismissed as headmaster of the Drummond Middle School in Bradford, where 95 per cent of the 530 pupils are from ethnic communities.

Protests were expected after Bradford City Council announced Mr Honeyford's reinstatement pending its appeal against the High Court decision that he should go back to his job.

Yesterday dozens of the youngsters joined a crowd of about 100, including some parents, to wave banners and shout slogans calling their headmaster a "racist" and demanding his removal.

They formed up with protesters each holding a white card bearing a single letter to spell out the message: "We have no confidence in Honeyford". Another poster proclaimed: "Honeyford and Botha, they are both the same, they play the racist game".

There were allegations yesterday that some children intending to go into school were persuaded not to do so by some of the demonstrators. Others, more determined, were led through the protesters by police officers into the school yard.

Mr Honeyford, however, avoided the demonstration by arriving at school shortly after 7am when only half a dozen protesters were present. He seemed unperturbed by the chanting and noise outside which echoed around the school.

Speaking in the school library, Mr Honeyford said he was delighted to be back. "I have missed the school and I am looking forward to getting back into the busy life of school life. I have missed my

City banker appointed as royal secretary

By Alan Hamilton

The Prince and Princess of Wales have appointed Sir John Riddell, aged 51, a City banker, as their private secretary. Buckingham Palace announced yesterday.

Sir John, who has no previous connection with royal circles, fills a post which has been vacant for six months since the resignation in March of Mr Edward Adeane, the Prince's private secretary for six years, after what were understood to be irreconcilable differences with the royal couple.

Since Mr Adeane's return to his libel law practice, the Prince's office has been run by Mr David Roycroft, an assistant private secretary on secondment from the Foreign Office.

Sir John will resign his present job as executive director of the City banking house, Credit Suisse First Boston, to take up his duties on October 1. He will also relinquish his part-time post as deputy chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which was due to end later this year.

A Northumbrian baronet who succeeded to the title in infancy on the death of his father, Sir John is married to the daughter of Lord Richardson, the former governor of the Bank of England, and has three children. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, and worked for a short spell in the World Bank.

Sir John said yesterday that he had been surprised to be offered the royal post. He is believed to have been recommended to the Prince and Princess by mutual friends.

The post, which is believed to be worth about £28,000 a year, is a crucial one within the royal household. Traditionally, private secretaries to the Prince



Sir John Riddell, leaves banking post.

of Wales have been long-serving courtiers who have guided the heir all the way to the throne. But at 51, Sir John is probably already too old to remain with the Prince until he succeeds to the Throne.

The appointment of Sir John, a stranger to royal circles, is a further indication of the Prince of Wales's desire to distance himself from the more traditional court atmosphere which surrounds the Queen, to make some attempt to move with the times, and to have more contact with the outside world.

Among Sir John's first duties will be to accompany the Prince and Princess on a tour of Australia and the United States, beginning in late October.

Buckingham Palace also announced yesterday that the Prince and Princess's staff is to be increased with the appointment of an additional assistant equerry to the Prince, Captain Alison Ewan, aged 29, of the Women's Royal Army Corps, the first woman to be made an equerry, will work chiefly in the office planning royal engagements, but will occasionally accompany the Prince on official visits.

The Princess of Wales is also to have a new equerry, Lieutenant-Commander Richard Aylard, RN, aged 33, succeeds Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, who is returning to normal Navy duties.

The tribunal continues today.



Princess Anne during a visit to Tunbridge Wells, Kent, yesterday, photographed at the town's Borderers Rugby Club, where she met the coach and players.

Snowballing led to boy's death, court told

Three boys who "ganged up" on a school fellow for reporting them to the police were accused of his manslaughter at Chester Crown Court yesterday.

Mark Harvey, of Redesmere Close, Northwich, died after being kicked as he lay in the street outside Leftwich High School, Northwich, Cheshire. Simon Storey, aged 16, of Alvanley Rise, Leftwich, pleaded not guilty to the boy's manslaughter.

Two other boys, Simon James, of Alvanley Rise, Leftwich, and Mark Henrietta, of Old Hall Road, Northwich, both aged 15, have pleaded guilty to the manslaughter, and will be sentenced at the end of the trial.

Mr Elgan Edwards, for the prosecution, said all the boys were pupils at Leftwich High School. The day before Mark Harvey died the three accused were snowballing his house. "A trivial matter, perhaps, but relative to this case and providing the motive for the killing the following day".

Mr John Rogers, QC, for the defence, said it was admitted that the boy died in the street as a result of injuries sustained in the attack. Judge Robin David lifted an order preventing the identification of the youths.

Surveyors call for home sales package

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

Surveyors and estate agents should be allowed to offer a comprehensive house-buying package of estate agency and conveyancing services, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors recommends in a memorandum to the Government, published yesterday.

The institution believes that estate agents should not act as conveyancers, but take into partnership, or employ, licenced conveyancers or solicitors.

If such multi-disciplinary practices were allowed, there would need to be safeguards to protect the public interest, including professional indemnity insurance and mandatory compensation arrangements for the loss of clients' money.

The institution says there would also have to be rules to safeguard against conflicts of interest. "It is essential that such conflicts should be avoided, and that all clients can have total confidence that their professional advisers are safeguarding their interests in every respect."

It suggests that a firm providing a package service should not be allowed to act for both sides in the same transaction, whether as agent or conveyancer. In chains of transactions, however, a firm would be allowed to act for other links in the chain provided that full disclosure was made to all concerned.

In its memorandum to the Lord Chancellor, who is seeking views on proposed legislation to open up conveyancing to wider competition, the institution recommends that the director general of fair trading might be made responsible for exercising powers of control and supervision of firms offering package services.

Mr David Allbeury of the RICS, said that the institution was trying to respond to public demand in proposing the package.

IBA fears 'unfair advantage' for BBC

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The Independent Broadcasting Authority said yesterday that advertising on the BBC could "bulldoze" the foundations of British broadcasting, but questioned the corporation's extensive involvement in radio.

Mr John Whitney, Director General of the IBA, spoke of the threat to existing broadcasting institutions when he made public the IBA's evidence to the Peacock committee on the funding of the BBC.

The IBA, which controls ITV and the commercial radio network, argues that cable and satellite have long-term implications for broadcasting.

But, for at least the next decade, it says public broadcasting authorities will retain an essential role in ensuring a range of choice for the audience.

"We do not believe that the licence fee is at the end of its life. The principle of separation of funds has worked well in terms of the range of quality of broadcasting services available to the public."

The IBA argues that advertising would be detrimental to the standards of British television and could give the BBC an unfair advantage over ITV. In a system in which the BBC relied partly on commercials, it argues, the corporation would be less vulnerable to any downturn in advertising revenue and better able to take risks than ITV.

The IBA concurs with the BBC on much of its evidence, however. Both believe that the present system, in which the two sides of British broadcast-

ing do not compete for their income, succeeds in providing the basis for a public service broadcasting system which is highly regarded throughout the world.

In a passage which echoes the BBC's initial evidence - the corporation is due to present more papers to the Peacock committee before the end of the year - the IBA insists that it is for the advocates of BBC advertising to prove that this would improve British broadcasting.

Jobs watchdog is accused of sex bias

A claim of sex discrimination was made against the Equal Opportunities Commission yesterday by one of its own commissioners.

Professor Angela Bowey, aged 44, Scottish EOC Commissioner and a proponent of women's rights, told an industrial tribunal in Glasgow she had applied for the £26,000-a-year post of chief executive with the commission.

But she was not short-listed from more than 100 candidates, and the job was given to Mr Alan Hart, formerly chief

executive of Wigan, Greater Manchester.

The tribunal, expected to last three days, was described as "most unusual" by Mr George McLaughlin, the chairman.

Professor Bowey told the tribunal she was invited for an initial interview after a meeting of a selection committee the same day had decided she would not be short-listed.

She said: "I believe I met the criteria for the post as well as or better than some or all of the male candidates who were interviewed and that the commissioners and commission staff involved with the selection process knew or should have known that I met those criteria."

"It is evident that information about my qualifications was not discussed at the meeting when the decision was made about who was to be short-listed."

The professor, a mother of five, has been Scottish commissioner for six years. She claimed she had the experience and knowledge of management and administration needed for the job.

Professor Bowey who holds the chair of business administration at Strathclyde University, said she was originally listed in the "top 20" candidates.

The tribunal continues today.

Professor Bowey, discrimination charge.

Jail for jobs fraud on the unemployed

A businessman was jailed for three years yesterday for a "typical" fraud in which hundreds of Britain's job hunters were persuaded to pay £150 each for sales posts that did not exist.

Russell Ruddiman, aged 47, was said at the Central Criminal Court to use an American accent to interview hopeful applicants.

The Recorder, Mr J. M. Collins, said Mr Ruddiman "played for high stakes" hoping to make between £100,000 and £200,000. But the police moved in to stop cheques from applicants being cashed.

Ruddiman, of Adel, Leeds, admitted conspiracy to defraud between January and February 1983.

A second man, Brian Hill, aged 47, of Cheshire, was given an 18 month sentence, suspended for two years, after admitting a similar charge.

Councils give warning of higher bus and rail fares

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Bus and commuter rail fares in provincial cities could rise by 15 to 20 per cent next year and services could be reduced by 5 per cent because of government spending cuts, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said yesterday.

The AMA was commenting on 1986-87 expenditure limits imposed by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, on the new passenger transport authorities to be set up in Manchester, Merseyside, South Yorkshire, Tyne and Wear, West Midlands and West Yorkshire.

Mr Ridley has ordered cuts of nearly 10 per cent in total public transport expenditure for these areas, from £402 million this year to £372 million a level he described as "providing a reasonable balance between the interests of public transport users and ratepayers in metropolitan areas."

Until now, ratepayers had sometimes been faced with severe burdens because of extravagant county council policies and the new authorities would have to get the balance right, he said.

Mr Ridley said the new limits

would permit the continuation of concession fares provided the authorities followed his advice on revenue support.

The 1986-87 permitted totals (1985-86 in brackets) are as follows: Manchester £74.3 million (£80 million); Merseyside £75.2 million (£88 million); South Yorkshire £50.5 million (£78 million); Tyne and Wear £60 million (£55 million); West Midlands £54.8 million (£47 million); West Yorkshire £57.8 million (£47 million).

Although the metropolitan counties are all Labour controlled, some, including South Yorkshire and Merseyside which are regarded as more left-wing and extravagant than the others, will bear the main cuts.

Tyne and Wear with its showpiece metro, and the more conservative West Midlands and West Yorkshire, will get more.

Meanwhile, government grants for British Rail passenger services will be £812.8 million for 1986-86, as part of a planned three-year cost cut. Grants for the previous 15 months amounted to £1,069.5 million.

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26-32	2,128	1,119	1,337	4,579	2,123
33-39	2,111	1,112	1,330	4,553	2,111
40-46	2,089	1,101	1,318	4,506	2,089
47-53	2,061	1,086	1,289	4,445	2,041
54-60	2,024	1,072	1,281	4,387	1,912
61-67	2,012	1,050	1,268	4,340	1,670
68-74	1,975	1,041	1,244	4,260	1,422
75-79	1,975	1,041	1,244	4,260	1,165

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26-32	5,492	2,886	3,450	11,840	5,489
33-39	5,476	2,870	3,430	11,812	5,476
40-46	5,445	2,839	3,394	11,745	5,445
47-53	5,398	2,803	3,351	11,551	5,398
54-60	5,319	2,767	3,308	11,325	5,335
61-67	5,250	2,739	3,275	11,212	4,915
68-74	5,167	2,691	3,217	11,018	4,578
75-79	5,107	2,691	3,217	11,015	3,014

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(c) Have a proposal on your life been declined, postponed, or accepted on special terms by any life insurance company? ☐ YES ☐ NO

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LIBERAL ASSEMBLY/DUNDEE

Caretaker to fear • Riot inquest • Pay limits

UN looks to restore early ambitions in its fortieth year

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The fortieth session of the United Nations General Assembly opens here today with the fate of South Africa dominating the agenda and the Soviet Union, with its newly-found invigorated image, seeking to recapture the imagination of the international community which has for some time tended to follow the contest between East and West with an Olympian detachment.

Against the backdrop of expectations instilled 40 years ago stand today in sharp relief some 140 agenda items, ranging from chemical weapons to Palestine, that give the impression of having been inscribed with indelible ink. The Assembly will be looking to recover some of its lost meaning and grandeur.

A special meeting of the Security Council will be convened on September 27 where foreign ministers will discuss ways of enhancing the effectiveness of the Council. It is an old theme which has been much on the mind of Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the Secretary General, who this year decided to challenge the council to find solutions to at least one or two of the world's problems.

In keeping with recent tradition, the Soviet Union will put forward a new disarmament offer when Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, the Foreign Minister, addresses the Assembly for the first time. It will suggest the holding of a UN-sponsored international conference intended to prevent the military use of outer space, and will try to place the Reagan Administration on the defensive before an international audience.

The proposal will be the latest in a series of Soviet attempts to halt the Star Wars programme. One sure way in which the Russians could begin to return to the good diplomatic graces of

the Third World would be to make an unambiguous gesture on Afghanistan. The Russian ardour in the Assembly, and the issue is being seen by diplomatic observers here as the real test on whether the change in the Soviet leadership is more in substance than style.

The issue of sanctions will once again be a point of debate on departure in the debate on South Africa. But private South African officials are likely to focus discussions on the social and economic instability in South Africa may spill over into neighbouring countries. This time they are likely to attempt to establish a "Pax Pretoria" in southern Africa had begun yielding fruit with Angola and Mozambique. Its diplomatic position in the West had reached a pinnacle and even African censure was muted.

This year the South African Government has revealed itself as standing at the beggar's crossroads with all directions pointing to political disaster. For decades the goal of the UN has been to bring Pretoria to its knees, and although the aim appears within sight there is now concern over lessening the repercussions.

Other highlights on the agenda will be the famine in Africa, the international debt crisis, the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia and the Middle East. New calls will be made for the convening of a UN Middle East conference and Britain will be under pressure to negotiate the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands with Argentina.

Heads of state will not gather until the third week of October to take part in anniversary celebrations and ostensibly recommit themselves into making the UN more than a talking shop.

Berliners try to spike the British guns

From Henry Stanhope Berlin

Angry West Berliners who claim that their peace and prosperity are being shattered by a new British Army firing range, are preparing to take their case to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. This is on the assumption that a ruling in the Court of Appeal in London in November will support a High Court judgment against them earlier this year.

The range at RAF Gatow, not far from the Berlin Wall, has already become a legal cause célèbre because of the constitutional complications. About 800 people who live near the airfield in a leafy Berlin suburb are objecting to the noise and other environmental pollution from the range, which is to become fully operational later this year.

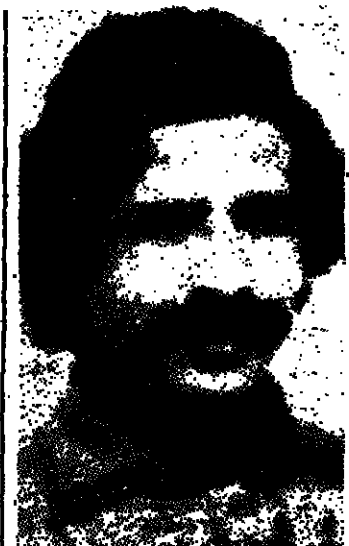
Attempts to plead their case before a court either in West Germany or Britain have been thwarted by the special status of Berlin, where the military are still in charge.

Sir Geoffrey Howe as Foreign Secretary ruled last year that the British Government's liability in the matter could not be challenged, and had his point upheld by the High Court in April.

But the two elderly Berliners fighting on behalf of the other local residents are determined to battle on, even to the lengths of taking their protest to the court in Strasbourg, while politicians in West Germany have already begun to echo their plea for human rights.

Herr Reiner Geulen, a Berlin lawyer who is representing the protesters, says that they have very little choice - although the fight has already cost them about £30,000. The dispute, he says, has so badly affected the value of the £120,000 houses in an upper-middle class estate on one side of the airfield, that not a single home could be sold there for two years.

He dismisses any suggestion that the residents are trying to bring a test case against the legality of the military government in Berlin.



Mr Fakhani: received severest penalty.

Morocco: Abdelfattah Fakhani

By Caroline Moorehead In January 1976, Abdelfattah Fakhani, a 36-year-old school teacher, was arrested, one of more than 200 members of a radical socialist grouping called the *Frontistes* to be taken into detention in two years of widespread arrests.

He spent seven months in secret custody, and is believed to have been tortured, by being beaten while suspended from iron bars and given electric shocks.

A year after his arrest, in January 1977, Abdelfattah Fakhani and 177 other *Frontistes* were tried by the Criminal Court of Appeal in Casablanca. The prosecution accused them of plotting against the internal security of the state, and of planning to bring about the violent overthrow of the monarchy.

No evidence, however, was produced to indicate that any of these charged had used or advocated violence. An Amnesty International observer, who attended the trial, reported that the procedures failed to conform to international standards for a fair trial.

Abdelfattah Fakhani is now serving a life sentence in Kenitra Central Prison. He is one of 44 to have received the severest penalty, the others having been given prison sentences ranging from five to 30 years.

Zimbabwe frees whites accused of plotting

From Jan Roath, Harare

Four whites arrested in the western city of Bulawayo last week on suspicion of being the initiators of a secessionist plot in Matabeleland were released yesterday.

Mr Trevor Hamans, aged 56, Mr Michael Jacobs, aged 64, Mr Patrick Higgins, aged 49, and Mr Anthony Hunt, aged 48, were held after their arrests at several police stations under 30-day detention warrants.

They were strongly suspected, being the initiators of a scheme to split Matabeleland from the rest of the country and to form the Republic of Matabeleland, the troubled province. They were also told they were suspected of aiding anti-government guerrillas.

Mr David Coltart, representing two of the men, said that all four had been released. Their prompt release is seen here as a clear sign that they were arrested not as a result of any general government policy, but rather through the over-zealous actions of the arresting officers, members of a little-known and independent branch of the Police Internal Security Intelligence.

The arrest of the four, all former district commissioners with a thorough knowledge of the Ndebele people of Matabeleland, was greeted with jubilation.

CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK

They speak ill of Dundee; they being anyone of any note who has passed this way and then felt obliged to comment upon the fact.

Dr Johnson came and went and found nothing to remember, and Queen Victoria ribbed the place for being blessed with a site which should have encouraged a city of grandeur, but instead gave rise to an absence of grace so complete that it is almost a thing of wonder.

The contrast with Torquay could not be greater. The SDP arm of the Alliance met in sunshine, and mingled in a garden party atmosphere, sited their views in a gentle way and generally blossomed in the sea breezes and became bloated with an air of importance fostered by the kind of security awarded to VIPs - a phalanx of policemen at every turn.

The Liberal arm of the Alliance is meeting in the rain with hardly a policeman in sight - can the Scots be so trusted? and above all, in a fractious mood, ready to squabble even before the conference is officially opened.

The gateaux has given way to the gobs of politics, and all over a cute picture of the Davids, Steel and Owen, which adorns the conference platform and in front of which each speaker will have to stand in the coming week.

Officials were proud of this gesture of co-operation until they discovered that some delegates, unable to see the subtlety of the Steel victory, had ordered that the picture should be taken down.

Now the Liberals pride themselves on their sense of humour, on their ability to laugh at themselves, and at the Soggies, their nickname for their SDP colleagues, which seems a fair exchange for the SDP's less terse epithet that the Liberals are a bunch of "3CVs in dungarees".

Perhaps it is only right that the gobs of politics should rumble and produce a giggle. There were few elsewhere. This was the day for marathon commissions on the regeneration of the economy and on justice and security.

The one of the Justice commission matched the melancholia of Dundee: it ended in Handsworth.

Gus Williams, for 10 years a community leader in that deprived part Birmingham, brought the informal commission to its feet.

The first time he asked for it he called for a minute's silence in memory of those who died. The second time it happened spontaneously: he received a standing ovation for his eloquent attempt to correct what he described as the misinformation seeping from Handsworth, the attempt to blame drug pushers for the riots.

His passionate plea was that the Liberal Party should fight for the forgotten people, black, white and brindle who endure deprivation in Handsworth. The stuff of politics had surfaced at last.

Linda Christmas

A man capable of creating alarm among opponents

By Julian Haviland Political Editor

The appointment of Mr Andrew Ellis as secretary general of the Liberal Party is to last only three months, but there were professionals in the Conservative and Labour camps yesterday who still thought it had news for them.

Mr Alan Watson, the Liberal president, described Mr Ellis as "one of the most formidable and successful political organizers in Britain today", and his rivals regard that as only slight exaggeration.

A genial man in a civilized and tolerant party, Andy Ellis has probably come nearer than any other modern Liberal to causing real alarm when a by-election is pending, to his political opponents.

The Liberal national executive had to act quickly on Sunday to fill the gap left at the top of the professional organization for England caused by the sudden loss of Mr John Spiller.

Not wanting to rush the choice of a long-term successor, they jumped at the first hint from Mr Ellis that he might help them out until Christmas. He has all the qualifications.

He has been elected to most key party committees, including the national executive since 1972 and of which he is now vice-chairman. Now aged 33, he has risen through the party, which he joined at the age of 17, and understands it thoroughly at every level.

The grass roots will have someone at the top who knows the frustration caused by a remote and uncommunicative central command. But Andy Ellis's strength is in his exceptional campaigning experience. He regards himself as a politician who knows a bit about organizing, and not the other way round.

He has fought four Parliamentary elections, and says he means to fight again and get elected, and is a former leader of the Liberals on the Tyne and Wear County Council.

His most remarkable achievement as a Parliamentary candidate was second place, with 29 per cent of the vote, in the 1976 by-election in the supposedly safe Labour seat of Newcastle upon Tyne Central.

Since then, Mr Ellis has been in the thick of most by-elections, either as agent or organizer. In the famous Liberal victories at Bermondsey and Brecon, and near-misses, such as Penrith, or as Liberal link-man in the SDP-led triumphs at Crosby and Hillhead, he has done as much as anyone to earn the battle honours.

Mr Ellis cuts and breathes Liberal politics. He describes his profession as "freelance consultant political agent and organizer", and his bread and butter comes from a contract with the autonomous Welsh Liberal Party as consultant agent for Wales.

Mr Ellis's campaigning has made him a firm supporter of the Alliance. He acknowledges a philosophical distinction between Liberalism and Social Democracy, but says the political distinction is unimportant.

"Many Liberal believe in Social Democracy and vice versa", he says. "We are people who ought to be on the same side".



Mr Andrew Ellis, whose appointment is temporary.

17, and understands it thoroughly at every level. The grass roots will have someone at the top who knows the frustration caused by a remote and uncommunicative central command. But Andy Ellis's strength is in his exceptional campaigning experience. He regards himself as a politician who knows a bit about organizing, and not the other way round.

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THE ECONOMY

Pay policy 'must be the key to party's economic strategy'

Liberals must commit themselves to making support for a pay policy the key to its economic strategy. Mr David Penhaligon, the party's economic spokesman, emphasized during discussions on the regeneration of the economy.

He said he believed in the philosophy "a pay rise for yourself or a job for your mate". "Pay settlements in the private sector are still nudging 9 per cent. With inflation at 5 or 6 per cent, the Government can do nothing else than see unemployment steadily and frighteningly rise."

Mr Penhaligon MP for Truro, added: "You have to commit yourselves today to a pay policy because, without that, nearly all we have to say about the economy just becomes fluff in the wind."

"It is the key to an alternative economy which will give the three million unemployed some hope and opportunity in the future."

He called for Britain to join the European Monetary System, a view supported by many speakers during the morning's debate which ranged over the problems of small businesses, international indebtedness and "green growth".

He said there was a limit to how many assets a government could sell off to finance tax cuts.

There was nothing fundamentally wrong with privatizing the country's assets so long as the Government knew what it was doing and used the money to benefit the country.

Mr Richard Wainwright, MP for Colne Valley and the party's spokesman on employment, said the EEC had failed lamentably to act together industrially and commercially. That must be a priority for a Liberal government.

Mr Michael Meadowcroft, MP for Leeds West, said the Liberals must look carefully at how they could work in partnership with industrial concerns. They might not like multinationals but it would be disastrous for the economy to inhibit their operations.

The commission on the regeneration of the economy overwhelmingly approved a motion redefining Liberal policy in favour of a sustained economy instead of one of zero growth.

The delegates also voted for a clear statement against protectionism in international matters and for international action to try to stabilize exchange rates.

Opening a discussion on decentralization, Mr Paddy Ashdown, MP for Yeovil and spokesman on trade and industry, described the economy as being "caught between the

ghosts of Adam Smith and Karl Marx". He called for a national enterprise unit to regenerate the regional economies.

Mr Robert Pritchard, of Leicester, said that the problem of incomes policy was a short-term one. In two years' time the Alliance might find itself in government facing an unprecedented economic crisis with millions out of work, on welfare and without hope.

Mr Vivian Bingham, of West Derbyshire, said that incomes policies were wrong because Liberals believed in self-determination.

At the end of the debate the straw poll showed a large majority of those taking part in the commission in favour of some form of incomes strategy: about a dozen voted against. The commission will report to the full assembly later in the week.

Today's debates

Debates during today's opening full session of the assembly will be on party business, social security reform, local government finance in Scotland and the Strategic Defence Initiative (Star Wars). Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the Social Democratic party will speak during the afternoon session.

Ulster prospects: 2

Japanese open way for small firms to boost jobs



Mr Norman Crossley, manager of the lighters company

Incentives
Accommodation: Land and premises for purchase or lease.
Capital grants: Up to 50 per cent of new buildings and equipment.
Employment grants: Paid per capita over three to five years.
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Management incentive grants: For exceptional recruitment problems.
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Trade fairs and exhibitions: Financial and organizational support.

"We are building a valuable society by producing valuable products, and in the process we are achieving our objectives which are assigned in turn to the company's employees and at the same time giving them a reason to exist (which they need)."

Thus has the Japanese work ethic come to Northern Ireland, in the form of the "spirit" of Iwax, a producer of disposable cigarette lighters which in June set up a government-backed operation in a remote corner of Belfast.

The company's creed, the seemingly essential feature of Japanese corporate life, adds: "Meritorious conduct will be praised, but all employees should realize that any infringements of regulations, or acts against the development of society, must be unambiguously punished without concern for personal feelings."

How that will go down in the wilds of Co Antrim remains to be seen, but the arrival of the first Japanese company in the province has raised hopes of a breakthrough in attracting Far East companies. The Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board took over a year to encourage Iwax to decide on Northern Ireland for its first European plant. A second company is now being wooed.

The £2 million of IDB grants that have been pumped into the 100-job Iwax project and the high level of research and development facilities offered by the universities were the two main factors. The company plans a £3.5 million investment, with production rising from 1.2 million lighters last month to 2 million next month, all of them for sale on the Continent but not in the United Kingdom, where there is a 50p duty on lighters.

Elsewhere in Ulster, the signs of industrial revival, with small firms in the vanguard, can be seen in the attempts being made to foster existing companies, to encourage them export more and to become more efficient. After the DeLorean and Lear

Japanese industry has made its first foray into Ulster, underwritten by the international publicity the province's political troubles receive. EDWARD TOWNSEND, Industrial Correspondent, reports.

Fan disasters. Northern Ireland is less inclined to import big job-creating projects from overseas.

Iwax is the sort of newcomer that has been nurtured and encouraged by Mr John McAlister, new chief executive of the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board, who has played a leading role in developing the board's new five-year strategy and was previously responsible for inward investment. While foreign companies are still welcome in Ulster, there is a greater emphasis on fostering existing industries.

Nowhere is the new drive for export dynamism more evident than in food processing. Ulster remains largely an agricultural province, a net exporter of food.

Tayto, Northern Ireland's best known potato crisps, may soon be on sale in England. The family-run company, operating from a seventeenth-century castle in Co Armagh, employs 200 people and uses Ulster potatoes. It has received substantial IDB grants to fund its new £2 million being line.

Mrs Anne Hutchinson, one of the Hutchinson family of directors, says: "We intend to launch a new product in the south of Ireland and soon we will be hitting the Liverpool area with Tayto crisps."

Another company adding value to a staple Northern Ireland product is Moypark, which processes 600,000 chickens a week at its factory near Dunganstown and is one of the top five in the UK chicken industry.

Grants from the IDB are enabling the company to open a new £4 million plant at Portadown in Co Armagh next spring which will employ several hundred new workers and specialize in a range of chicken dishes aimed at the gourmet sector for export to Britain.

"Our great advantage is the supply of chickens from the 200 Northern Ireland farmers who work exclusively for us", Mr Eric Reid, livestock director for Moypark, says. "We have no foreign competitors. We are in one of the best agricultural disease-free zones in Europe."

On such grand statements is the rebirth of northern Ireland industry being based. New jobs are scarce, but so are soldiers and armed policemen, as most visitors are surprised to discover.

But the image persists, and the Government continues to pour in vast sums to underpin the hoped-for regeneration of Ulster economy. As Dr George Chambers, the regional CBI chairman, puts it: "We think of us, so we just have to prove that we are better than anybody else."

Concluded

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

I cannot recall any Liberal conference opening at a time of such sober optimism for the party as this one. There were, it is true, the heady days of 1981 shortly after the birth of the SDP and the creation of the Alliance. The Warrington by-election was still fresh in the memory. Croydon and Crosby were soon to come. But there was always something ephemeral in the atmosphere of those days.

The new mood of hope in Alliance circles cannot be attributed simply to the success of the SDP conference last week. Nor is it just that the Alliance has been doing well in by-elections and most recent opinion polls. Mid-term reversals followed by general election disappointments have become part of the Liberal way of life for nearly 30 years.

Signs of changing public mood

It is the conjunction of external and internal developments that is creating the brighter prospect. There are signs that the public mood is changing after six and a-half years of Mrs Thatcher's rule. All British political history suggests that this country wants a radical government, whether of the left or the right, only for relatively short periods of time.

The natural inclination is towards the middle ground and this tendency is now reasserting itself. That is bound to be encouraging for parties in the centre. But that is not all.

One of the most critical decisions at the SDP conference was that it should be a non-ideological party. Some people see this as a failure to identify itself with any particular interest or section of British society. I see it, on the contrary, as associating the Alliance with that important section of opinion which does not see politics predominantly in class terms.

These are people who want, above all, pragmatic, moderate government. Their apparent reasonableness may conceal some inconsistency. They may wish to combine hard traces with soft options. But then the Alliance may be well placed to cater to that inclination as well.

It will not, however, be given the middle ground to itself. The Conservatives will seek to adjust the appearance, if not the substance of their policies. Labour's leadership is already moving back towards the centre, eagerly if somewhat erratically. If the Alliance is to hold its own against such challenges it will need to look at convincing political movement.

It has made some progress in that direction. The prospect of a brighter future seems to have encouraged a greater warmth between the two parties. There is now the possibility of a joint conference next year.

They have begun to make serious, sometimes painful, adjustments on policy to accommodate each other. That was the significance of last week's manoeuvres on a nuclear freeze. I do not think much of the outcome as a defence policy. But it may well serve its purpose as a political strategy to pursue the electorate that the differences between the Liberals and the SDP on defence have been reduced to boring technicalities.

One of the tests for the Liberals at Dundee this week will be whether this fragile potential compromise emerges intact. Will Mr Paddy Ashdown, the MP who made the most significant shift in his position last week, be pilloried at the various fringe meetings for no longer seeking the immediate withdrawal of cruise missiles already in this country?

Hung Parliament almost natural

The Alliance is also benefiting from the much wider public acceptance of the possibility of a hung Parliament after the next election. The idea of an all-party conference in advance of the election to lay down the ground rules for such an eventuality is nonsense.

But Dr Owen and Mr Steel have had considerable success in starting a debate on the subject. It makes a hung Parliament seem almost a natural development and helps to quash the fear that a vote for the Alliance would be wasted.

Yet none of this will count for much if the Liberals appear this week to be a feeble lot. There is a particular challenge in a conference that begins with bright hopes. After the success of Torquay there is now more to lose than to gain in Dundee.

Lange rejects Mitterrand Mururoa overture but is ready to leave for Paris

From A Correspondent, Wellington

Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, has turned down an invitation from President Mitterrand of France to visit the controversial French test site on Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific.

But Mr Lange is prepared to go to France at short notice to meet the President in an attempt to rescue deteriorating relations between the two countries in the wake of the bombing of the Greenpeace ship, Rainbow Warrior, in New Zealand.

Mr Lange, rejecting an invitation issued by President Mitterrand for South Pacific leaders to visit the test site and verify its safety, said:

"I don't want to look into a bomb crater - I want to see President Mitterrand".

Mr Lange had earlier confirmed that he had written to the President proposing a meeting. A Radio New Zealand report from Paris quoted Mr Mitterrand as saying the proposal was a good initiative.

Mr Lange said that his letter to the President had asked that

a scheduled visit to Paris on October 3 by New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer, during which French involvement in the sabotage of the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour was to be discussed, should not be cancelled. New Zealand was officially advised at the weekend that France had "postponed" Mr Palmer's visit indefinitely.

In anticipation of this, Mr Lange said he had proposed to President Mitterrand that the two leaders meet if Mr Palmer's visit could not go ahead. "He had described my initiative as a good one - the next step is whether he accepts it", Mr Lange said.

Mr Lange's confirmation that he had proposed the meeting came after a series of public exchanges between the two leaders, who have never met.

The exchanges, which began after New Zealand established French involvement in the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior in July and the later arrest in New Zealand of two French Army officers who were government agents, became more

heated at the weekend after President Mitterrand's flying visit to the French nuclear test site.

Asked what he expected could be achieved by meeting the President, Mr Lange said: "We could cut out the tripe. We could ask why there were French spies in New Zealand and why they regard our opposition to nuclear arms as an anti-French stance."

There is a whole web of issues, that we shouldn't be shouting at each other about - we ought now to be defusing all of these things."

Mr Lange's statement was seen in Wellington as evidence of growing concern among the country's foreign affairs officials that New Zealand may come off second best if there is no improvement in relations with France, and Mr Lange himself acknowledged that the Government was concerned about its

longer term trading relationship with France and other countries.

Mr Lange, however, strongly criticized President Mitterrand, particularly in relation to the President's weekend assertion in Paris that France had acted lawfully in sending agents to New Zealand.

"If he thinks there is nothing more lawful than sending French agents with false Swiss passports to sniff around New Zealand then that is a quite new concept of international law," he said.

Mr Lange also suggested that the President's visit to the Mururoa Atoll on Friday was motivated by a desire to increase support in France.

"It's politics: he's got an election coming up. Mr Fabius (French Prime Minister M. Laurent Fabius) doesn't want to take a bath in March and they've got to build up for those elections," Mr Lange said.

Hawke gibe on nuclear test site safety claim

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (AP) - Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister of Australia, yesterday accused France of inflaming tensions in the South Pacific and ejected an offer from President Mitterrand to visit the French nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll.

"If President Mitterrand is so interested to prove to everyone in our region just how absolutely safe these tests are,

there is one logical conclusion that follows - take his tests back to France and have those absolutely safe tests in metropolitan France."

Hawke, echoing the views of other Pacific leaders also took issue with President Mitterrand's view that anyone in the region who opposed the tests was an enemy of France. He said that represented a "dangerous new dimension" to relations between nations.

Rau offers himself as Chancellor

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

Herr Johannes Rau, the Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, yesterday announced his willingness to be the Social Democratic Party's candidate for the Chancellor at the next general election, early in 1987.

He did so after a meeting in Bonn of the equivalent of the party's national executive, which included the chairman, Herr Willy Brandt, Herr Rau in his capacity as a vice-chairman, and Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, who was the party's last candidate for Chancellor and remained, nominally, so until yesterday.

Some say that Herr Vogel realized all along that having been beaten by Herr Helmut Kohl in the 1982 general election he would not be allowed another chance. Others suggested that he had hoped he might be allowed another try, if only because Herr Kohl's good prospects for 1987 meant that there was a lack of enthusiasm for the contender's job.

But all that changed in the spring when Herr Rau was re-elected Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, the old industrial region which contains about a third of the electorate, by a much bigger margin than expected. It began to look as if Herr Kohl could be beaten in 1987.

Herr Vogel seems to have put the price of being an allegedly poor "communicator". He is a lawyer who is a good, dry, relentless debater in Parliament and he will remain the party's leader there.

Herr Rau, aged 54, is generally agreed to be "good on television". He is helped by having a young wife. Last week, to show that he is more than a mere regional politician, he took the opportunity of a North Rhine-Westphalia trade promotion in Moscow to visit the Soviet Union and talk to Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

He said that he would await the party congress in August 1986 to confirm him as candidate.

But he is approaching the candidacy in a leisurely way which suggests that he could still withdraw if Herr Kohl looks likely to win.

President's wife woos the voters

From Richard Wigg

Dr Manuela Eanes, wife of the Portuguese President, has shattered the quiet start to the general election campaign by blaming the rest of the country's politicians for widespread corruption, which she says worsens an already "grave" economic and social crisis.

With her husband barred from campaigning, Senhora Eanes will tour the country speaking on behalf of the new Democratic Renewal Party (PRD). She is not herself a candidate in the poll on October 10.

The PRD is the vehicle for her husband's political ambitions when he ends a second four-year term, the constitutional limit, next January. He is still a popular figure in Portugal.

Senhora Eanes, aged 46, a law graduate with wide experience in social affairs, could prove to be the trump card of the embryonic party which suddenly found itself obliged to contest a general election when the two-year coalition Government of Socialists and Social Democrats collapsed in June.

She is well known as the President's wife in a country where about a quarter of the 7.6 million voters are illiterate. Managers of the new party have conceded what polls have shown: that half the country

has not yet heard of the PRD or its symbol, the scales of justice.

By echoing Portugal's bishops in their moral criticism of successive governments, Senhora Eanes appears as a good Roman Catholic.

The party's propaganda, which includes a television broadcast featuring her outspoken criticisms, harks back to the ideals of equality and justice of the 1974 revolution by the armed forces which brought General Eanes to the fore. The party believes these ideals have been lost in 11 years of constant politicking.

Senhora Eanes contrasts alleged widespread corruption in official places with the economic hardship of most ordinary Portuguese and unemployment among the young.

"All the leaders, and not just some, must face up to the ethical dimension of politics," she declared in launching the campaign at Santarem, about 60 miles from Lisbon, a venue evidently chosen to underline the new party's roots "in the real country".

Senhora Eanes will campaign in the staunchly Catholic north and interior, striving to exploit the popularity of her husband, a northerner, and take votes from the right-of-centre Social Democrats and the conservative Democratic Centre.

The PRD is led by Senator Hermínio Martins, a successful farmer from central Portugal, who ran President Eanes's 1980 re-election campaign.

The polls have given the new party between 7 and 17 per cent of the vote, but with Senhora Eanes carrying the banner it could make significant gains in the campaign, particularly as neither the Socialists nor the Social Democrats have attractive new figures for the voters.

If the PRD gets 10 per cent of the vote, or about 20 seats, it may play a pivotal role in the 250 seat Parliament.

Dr Mario Soares, the Prime Minister, who is a candidate in the presidential election in January, has put up his number two, Senator Antonio Almeida Santos, aged 59, as front runner next month, aiming for the clear majority the Socialists failed to attain in the 1983 elections.



Senhora Eanes, carrying her husband's banner.



Fran Petra Kelly of the West German Greens with Mr Sam Nujoma, leader of Namibia's Swapo rebels, at a press conference in Bonn yesterday. Mr Nujoma accused Britain and West Germany of helping South Africa to maintain its rule in Namibia.

Whites fast to get troops out of black townships

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Two white South Africans are planning to fast for three weeks from today to support demands for the withdrawal of the Army from black townships, and many others are expected to fast for shorter periods.

The fasts are part of a wider protest action, entitled "Troops out of the townships - stop apartheid wars", being organized by the End Conscription Campaign, a church-backed group with small but growing support among whites.

Its influence has grown with the widespread use of the Army over the past year to support police in quelling unrest in black townships. Government concern about its influence was reflected in the arrest of four of its leaders last week.

Military conscription is compulsory only for whites. Service consists of two years in the Army, plus a further 750 days at military camps in instalments over 12 years, the equivalent of four years' service in all.

Conscientious objectors on religious grounds, who can convince a panel of examiners of their sincerity, have the option of six years' continuous and poorly paid "community service" outside the Army. And other draft resisters face six years in prison.

One of those taking part in the three-week fast is Dr Ivan Thoms, who has chosen "community service" and runs a clinic in the Crossroads black squatter settlement.

He is in hiding from the police, who visited his home in Cape Town yesterday morning, but plans to begin his fast this evening in St George's Anglican Cathedral in Cape Town. If arrested he intends to observe the fast in prison.

The administrator of St Mary's Cathedral in Cape Town, Father Roger Hinkley, said yesterday that nearly 100 Roman Catholic parishioners and priests had signed a roster to fast for 24-hour periods during Dr Thoms's three-week fast.

In Johannesburg, a student at the University of the Witwatersrand, Mr Harald Winkler, who faces call-up next January, will also start a three-week fast from today.

World cereal glut hits record

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

World cereals output is expected to reach a record 1,836 million tonnes in 1985-1986, according to the latest forecasts by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

But world trade is expected to fall by about 8 per cent to some

202 million tonnes, reflecting improved harvests in many African countries and an anticipated reduction in Soviet imports of wheat and coarse grains from 55 million to 38 million tonnes.

As a result, world cereal

stocks are forecast to increase to 340 million tonnes, about 35 million tonnes above their opening level. Despite a generally poor harvest in Northern Europe, EEC intervention stocks of wheat could rise to an unprecedented 20m tonnes.

Confusion over train crash toll

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

The exact number of dead and missing in last week's train crash in Northern Portugal is still not known and may never be. Officials at the National Service for Civil Protection in Lisbon says the latest number of dead is 31, but only 18 have been identified.

The other 33 are awaiting identification in hospital morgues or have been buried without being identified.

The national railways have not provided any lists of missing persons, saying that they are difficult to obtain. A list of 65 missing persons was compiled and published by the Coordination Centre of the National Service for Civil Protection at Viseu, the city near the disaster scene, but it is not known if some of these are among the unidentified dead, if they decided not to travel at the last moment or if they left the scene of the accident without reporting to anyone.

Among the list of missing persons were the names of 10 foreigners - five finns, two danes and three Luxembourgers. The total number of passengers of the two trains involved is given as 378 but railway officials say that other people got on during the trains' journeys so no definite number can be given.

Gandhi again warns of foreign agents as campaign begins

From Richard Ford, Delhi

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, on his first election campaign tour of Punjab, resorted to one of his mother's favourite tactics yesterday by giving a warning of foreign conspiracies designed to create chaos and weaken the nation.

Although he did not name the country where these conspiracies are "hatched" and terrorism is fomented, he clearly meant neighbouring Pakistan, which is blamed almost daily for harbouring and training Sikh extremists.

In three short election speeches in Punjab, notable for their lack of the usual electioneering attacks on opponents, he said the two main issues were peace and the elimination of terrorism.

The Prime Minister and his advisers clearly hope that the lack of "party politicking" in his remarks will set the tone for the rest of the campaign for elections to seats in the State Assembly and Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament).

He did, however, try to reassure Congress (I) candidates and party workers that they were treating the contest seriously and had not deliberately chosen weak candidates in the hope of ensuring victory for the Sikh Akali Dal party. Such rumours were a "blatant lie" as the party had fielded a strong team of old and new candidates which were the only ones able to provide strong government.

Congress (I) would form the next administration in the state. Mr Gandhi will not have endeared himself to old party stalwarts by bluntly saying that those denied a ticket for the elections would have weakened the party.

The terrorist threat dominated not only his speeches but also his own movements throughout yesterday's visit to Jalandhara, Ropar and Sangrur. Elaborate security precautions had been taken at each venue with "Black Cat" commandos

armed with automatic weapons and extra police on duty for days before his arrival. He spoke from behind a bullet-proof enclosure and all VIPs were searched with metal detectors before taking their reserved places.

Urging voters to co-operate in stopping the infiltration of people and foreign agents disguised as Sikhs, Mr Gandhi said terrorism was not an ordinary problem but a "deep conspiracy" hatched in a neighbouring country across the border from Punjab.

Some people who sneaked in from across the border and others attempting to show their strength in the United States and Britain were trying to scuttle the accord reached between his Government and Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, whose assassination, he said, was a heinous act.

The accord, a decision to hold elections on September 25, were part of the Government's effort to fight terrorism in the state. The restoration of peace was essential for development and progress.

He had promised during the general election last year that the Government would give priority to solving the Punjab problem.

Violence and other anti-national activities had left the state's economy in a shambles, but Mr Gandhi said the voters could look to a "bright future". He outlined some of the measures the government had taken to improve the situation, including an extra 90 million allocated for Punjab in the nation's seventh five-year plan, when bonuses paid to farmers and the development of a railway factory to provide jobs.

Meanwhile, in the biggest ever since Operation Blue Star, when troops entered the Sikh Golden Temple at Amritsar, it is being claimed that several terrorist hideouts have been found in Punjab.

Grenade blast kills 30 in Philippines cinema

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Three grenades thrown from the balcony of a southern Philippines cinema on to the crowded floor below left at least 30 people dead and scores wounded, officials said yesterday.

Most died from deep shrapnel wounds. Others, including women and children, were crushed and trampled to death in a stampede for the exit.

The state-run news agency said the attack was preceded by a brief electric black out in the New Rama Cinema in the isolated coastal town of Maranding, Lulu, on Mindanao island.

It was the worst grenade attack in post-war years, surpassing the blast inside the Roman Catholic cathedral of Davao in April 1981 which left 22 dead.

The motive is not known, and the grenade throwers escaped. The news agency described them as "terrorists", a label used to describe Communist and Muslim rebels as well as members of private armies and criminal gangs on war-torn Mindanao.

Afghan wounded swamp Red Cross hospital

From Michael Hamlyn, Peshawar

A flood of wounded from the bitter fighting over the border in Afghanistan has caused a severe headache for the Red Cross here, where they run a hospital treating wounded Mujahidin guerrillas. In one of the crucial battles of the war the Afghan regime is trying to close the vital border with Pakistan.

The fighting has taken place around two main centres in Afghanistan's Paktia and Nangrahar provinces near the towns of Khost and Jaji, and has also been aimed at two Mujahidin assembly areas at Azro and Hossarak. Casualties have been heavy on both sides. According to the guerrillas the regime's forces mainly from the Afghan Army, have suffered badly. One guerrilla source told me: "After

one engagement we piled the dead on to two Army trucks, but we didn't know what to do with them then so we set them on fire."

The Mujahidin have also suffered. Normally the hospital run by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Peshawar could expect to treat wounded at the rate of around 120 per month. At the end of August and during the first two weeks of September that rate at least doubled.

"Our operating theatre teams were working for 24 hours a day and they were exhausted," a Red Cross doctor, Mlle Françoise Fassi, said yesterday. "The hospital has a capacity of 100 beds, expandable to 150 by using tent and verandahs. Two

weeks ago we had 200 patients."

The Red Cross sent out an appeal to national societies and the Norwegian Red Cross responded with the loan of an emergency field hospital. Two days after it arrived the hospital, a collection of tents and two operating tables, was up and running.

Three more operating theatre teams, consisting of a surgeon, an anaesthetist and a nurse, have arrived and five more nurses from Scandinavia and New Zealand have also been sent out. The expatriate staff of the Red Cross in Peshawar has now doubled.

One of the noticeable things about the patients is that most of them have injuries to the legs or arms - hands or feet. The

harsh fact is that most Mujahidin wounded in the head or body simply do not survive the long journey from the battlefield, in spite of the establishment of first-aid mobile teams based on the border itself.

The recent fighting, according to guerrilla sources, began with the siege of the garrison town of Khost by Mujahidin of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, led by Pir Syed Gailani, in late June.

The Afghan forces immediately began to mount a retaliatory attack with the object of relieving the siege of Khost and closing down the guerrillas' staging areas at Hossarak and Azro. Simultaneously a column of troops left Gardez for the Jaji area.

SHARP SHOOTER.

LONDON'S DOUBLE AGENT IN THE KGB

Newsweek CLINT

An American Icon

ON SALE NOW

GET TO GRIPS WITH IT.

Hollow victory leaves Palme dependent on Communist support

From Christopher Mosey
Stockholm

Although red flags were duly waved and "The Internationale" was sung, Mr Olof Palme's victory in the Swedish election had a decidedly hollow ring to it yesterday.

The Prime Minister's Social Democratic Party lost its three-seat majority over the three non-socialist parties, forcing him to rely on Communist support for his next administration.

The 58-year-old Prime Minister, long the one-man band of Swedish political life and not known for his humility, was eclipsed in what he clearly saw as his hour of glory by the remarkable ascendancy of the Liberal leader, Mr Bengt Westerberg, aged 42. In his first election Mr Westerberg more than doubled his party's representation in the Riksdag (Parliament).

The result was a bitter blow, too, for the Conservative leader, Mr Ulf Adelsohn, aged 44, who said he was now setting his sights on the premiership in 1988 when it might be easier to unseat the socialists. "I am quite convinced we will be strong enough to take them then but I am very disappointed we didn't take them this time," he said.

Despite losing seven seats, Mr Palme, brandishing a bouquet of red roses, proclaimed the election "an enormous victory". He said he was not worried about his Government's reliance on Communist support. "We have been in this situation many times before," he said.

Asked to explain the dramatic swing to Mr Westerberg's Liberals, the Prime Minister said voters had been driven to the party by what he described as Mr Adelsohn's aggressive conservatism.

"You see the welfare state was under attack and when the Liberal leader with great success

Final result (1982 results in brackets)

Party	Percentage	Seats
Conservatives	21.4 (23.8)	76 (82) -10
Centre	12.5 (15.5)	51 (51) -30
Liberal	14.3 (5.3)	51 (21) +30
Total non-socialist vote	48.2 (44.6)	177 (153) +24
Social Democrats	44.9 (45.8)	159 (159) -7
Communist	5.4 (5.6)	19 (20) -1
Total Socialist vote	50.3 (51.2)	178 (180) -2
Votes cast	5,292,915 (5,696,803)	
Turnout	90 per cent (91.4)	

joined in its defence, he created a niche for himself and his party". Mr Palme said. The Swedish welfare state, "with all its flaws", was the most humane and civilized social system ever created.

Mr Palme derided Mr Westerberg's triumph. "Non-socialist supporters tend to vote for the great white hope. If one party doesn't produce it, they transfer their loyalties to another."

Mr Palme said he hoped for "a more relaxed style of politics" in the next Parliament with a broad base for agreement with the non-socialists. "My ambition is to create large majorities in Parliament," he said. All the non-socialist parties, however, ruled out cooperation with the Social Democrats and in the cold light of day Mr Palme was left with the Communists.

Perhaps as a sop to them he said he had received an "I shall honour it as soon as possible".

The Communist leader, Mr Lars Werner, aged 50, commands the Euro section of a badly split movement. He has denounced Soviet submarine incursions into Swedish waters and the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. He hinted at a tougher stance in dealings with

the Social Democrats. "We want to turn their policies to the left".

Mr Westerberg, who took over the Liberal leadership only two years ago, was carried shoulder high by his cheering supporters.

He modestly played down his own part in the Liberal success. "Many young people who are not socialists none the less have a social conscience and we succeeded in winning their support."

The non-socialists' failure to unseat Mr Palme stemmed from the three parties' inability to agree to a common platform. Mr Westerberg said. He pinned the blame for this on the centre party and said he hoped for a more united approach in 1988.

The election was a disaster for the centrists under Mr Thorbjörn Fälldin, aged 59, who was Prime Minister for most of the last period of non-socialist rule between 1976 and 1982. However, Mr Fälldin said he had no plans to resign as party leader. "What I feel like doing now is getting my own back," he said.

His party's pact with the small Christian Democratic Party resulted in a parliamentary seat for the Christian Democratic leader, Mr Alf Svensson, aged 46, but failed to attract the hoped-for support of uncommitted middle-of-the-road voters.

Local government elections held at the same time proved a bitter blow to the socialists. They lost control of Sweden's three principal cities, Stockholm, Göteborg and Malmö.

In Malmö, which the socialists had controlled for 66 years, the small Skane Party holds the balance of power. It calls for the independence of Skane, Sweden's southernmost province and its entry into both the European Economic Community and Nato.



Wrapping up the Pont Neuf

French technicians supervising (above) the arduous wrapping of an arch of Pont Neuf in Paris in stone-cloured cloth. The project of turning the bridge into a huge parcel was devised by Bulgarian-born artist Christo Javacheff (left). It will take 430,000 sq ft of cloth to cover it down to the waterline involving a team of rock climbers, divers and tree-cutters at a total cost of 18 million francs (£1.5 million). The bridge will remain wrapped for a fortnight but traffic will not be disrupted.

Stanley flies the flag to win Star Wars deal for UK

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, held talks with the Reagan Administration yesterday to help prepare the way for a formal agreement on British participation in President Reagan's Star Wars research initiative. An accord is likely before the end of the year.

The United States is hoping for a pact in advance of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit on November 19-20 to demonstrate to the Soviet Union that there is a substantial measure of allied backing for the controversial programme.

A six-man American Star Wars team returned to Washington yesterday after talks in Whitehall on the precise areas of research that might be granted to Britain. The US has insisted that all contracts must

include arrangements for the protection of classified information.

A British Government delegation, consisting mostly of technical experts, will visit Washington shortly to clarify further the type of research that Britain will conduct. Attention is being focused particularly on lasers and optics - areas that are also attractive to West German and Japanese firms. Britain has made it clear that it believes it should be given priority because of its "special relationship" with the US.

Britain has told the US it does not expect to be offered a minor "sub-contractor" role in the research programme, which is estimated to cost more than \$26 billion (£19 billion) over five to six years.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher wrote to President Reagan saying Britain was seeking contracts totalling \$1.5 billion. But the Americans have refused to be tied down to any precise figure.

Mr Stanley held talks yesterday with Dr Gerald Younas, chief scientist and acting deputy director of the "Star Wars" programme, formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative.

Dr Younas, who headed the latest American delegation to Britain, said: "We have made a lot of progress in defining the specific technical areas in this 'test case' approach, looking at particular areas and defining areas where the United Kingdom has unique capabilities."

He thought it "seemed reasonable" to say that an agreement with Britain would be reached before the end of the year.

Britain tries to gag ex-MI5 man

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

A British Government application for an injunction preventing publication in Australia of a book by a former MI5 officer who maintains that his one-time chief, Sir Roger Hollis, was a Soviet agent, was adjourned yesterday in the New South Wales Supreme Court until today.

The adjournment followed discussion between solicitors here acting for Britain and Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, and those representing Heinemann Australia and Mr Peter Wright, formerly a senior MI5 officer who retired in 1976 and now lives in Australia.

Last Thursday papers were served on Heinemann offices in Sydney and Melbourne after the company failed to give an undertaking not to publish a book by Mr Wright. An injunction is also being sought to prevent him publishing allegedly "confidential" information gathered while he was serving in British intelligence.

Mr Nicholas Hudson, managing director of Heinemann Australia, said the company would contest the action vigorously and wanted an adjournment to prepare its case.

"In August I was telephoned by a lawyer acting for the

British Government. He said his client was worried about a breach of confidence in a book by Mr Wright."

"My response was that it was not my practice to discuss scheduled publications. The next thing was that we were served with a summons last week."

"Mr Wright is the most patriotic person I have ever met. The idea that he would ever do anything to damage the realm is beyond comprehension."

The Australian Government announced yesterday that it would not interfere in the affair.

China still finds room for the Muslim faithful

Mary Lee, Peking correspondent, is one of the first Western journalists to visit the Chinese region of Ningxia. This is the second of her reports.

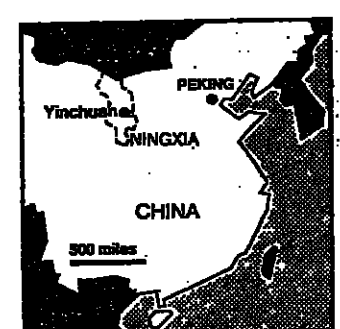
Should the 150 delegates from Muslim countries attending a symposium this week in Yinchuan, capital of the Chinese autonomous region of Ningxia, ask about the damage to Islamic institutions during the Cultural Revolution, they will be told it was the work of "leftists".

They will be informed that the post-Mao Government in Peking has given two million yuan for the restoration of mosques.

Plans have also been laid for a \$6.4 million Ningxia Islamic cultural centre which will

contain a central mosque, library, Muslim hospital and a Koran institute. Arab money is also sought for this project.

But the visitors will find many Hui (Muslims) - including Mr Hei Boli, Chairman of the regional Government - who have joined the Chinese Communist Party. Even though the Muslim Communists do not pray five times a day in the direction of Mecca, they attend Mosques to mark Ramadan and observe Muslim rites of marriage and death. But what about the inherent contradiction in the party since Communism as the party's theoretical journal, *Red Flag*, puts it - "are not allowed to believe in religion or to take part in religious activities"?



Red Flag's definitive article on the party policy explained the compromise on atheism in these words: "There are still quite a large number of party members among minority nationalities who... cannot be completely free from religious feelings..."

The party's current pragmatic compromise is echoed by the Imam of the Western Mosque in Yinchuan, Abbas Ma Wanguo: "We welcome Communists to worship at the mosque. In contributing to society, communism and Islam are doing many similar things."

[Concluded]

Swiss get tough over car exhausts

Bern (Reuters) - From October next year Switzerland is to enforce tighter vehicle emission controls, setting the toughest standards in Europe. It was announced here. Only vehicles fitted with catalytic converters and using lead-free petrol will be able to comply with the new laws.

Elisabeth Kopp, Justice Minister, said that carbon monoxide emissions would be cut by 91 per cent.

The new standards equal to those in force in the United States since 1983, will not apply to old cars or motorcycles. They will come into force for vehicles other than passenger cars from October 1, 1988.

12,000 'put to death by Iran'

Paris (Reuters) - The left-wing People's Mujahedin organization published a list here of names of 12,028 people it said had been executed in Iran since June 1981. It was an updated version of one published a year ago which listed 10,231 executions. The average age of those on the list was 23, eighty per cent of whom were Mujahedin. In a plea to Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, UN Secretary-General, Massoud Rajavi, the Mujahedin leader asks him to use all the means at his disposal to end the continuing torture and executions.

Another judge facing trial

Sydney (Reuters) - Australian District Court Judge John Foord became the second judge in a month to stand trial in Sydney charged with trying to influence judges in the trial of Morgan Ryan, a solicitor, over an immigration matter.

The case against him is similar to that against Australia's third most senior member of the judiciary, High Court judge Lionel Murphy, who on September 3 was jailed for 18 months.

König calls it a day

Rome - The news that Cardinal Franz König has finally given up, after nearly 30 years, the archdiocese of Vienna at the age of 80 marks an historic change (Peter Nichols writes).

He is the one member of the Sacred College of Cardinals who can claim both a leading part as a liberal spokesman in the Second Vatican Council and an equally decisive role in bringing about the election of the present Pope.

He is the one member of the Sacred College of Cardinals who can claim both a leading part as a liberal spokesman in the Second Vatican Council and an equally decisive role in bringing about the election of the present Pope.

Ceasefire is extended

Colombo - Sri Lanka declared an extension of the three-month-old ceasefire between the security forces and the Tamil separatist guerrillas. No new time limit was announced.

In Delhi today the guerrillas are due to meet Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India's Prime Minister to discuss proposed reforms.

Castro offer

Havana (Reuters) - Cuba is willing to free more than 70 political prisoners on humanitarian grounds after a private appeal to President Castro by visiting American Roman Catholic leaders, church sources said. The only condition was that the US would agree to accept them.

Killer coins

Copenhagen (AP) - A seal in the North Sea Museum in the Jutland town of Hirtshals died after swallowing 150 coins. The Aarhus newspaper *Jyllands Posten* reported. The coins found in its stomach were Danish, German, Norwegian and Swedish.

Thatcher to back Cairo's middle way

From Ian Murray
Cairo

Mrs Margaret Thatcher starts a hard day's work here today trying to give impetus to the bogged down Middle East peace process and proudly inaugurating work on a British scheme to build the biggest sewage project the world has ever known.

Egypt sees the visit of the British Prime Minister very much as a reward for its years of isolation in the Arab world because of its moderate approach towards Israel. President Mubarak, who will have a two-hour meeting with Mrs Thatcher this morning, has made a point of keeping Britain well informed of developments in the region while passing through London and he has long wanted a reciprocal visit.

Mrs Thatcher is not expected to come forward with any new initiative, but she will try to give every encouragement to Egypt to go on working closely with Jordan to find a moderate solution to the Palestinian problem. She will however, emphasize that there can be no involvement of the Palestine Liberation Organization in any talks unless it rejects terrorism.

Mrs Thatcher's main symbolic task is to help unveil the commemorative stone to inaugurate the £1 million Cairo Waste Water Project, being built with British expertise and with a total of £150 million of British money.

UK TRADE WITH JORDAN (£m)

	Exports	Imports
1983	262	20
1984	192	18
Jan-July 1985	87	73

UK TRADE WITH EGYPT (£m)

	Exports	Imports
1983	371	80
1984	427	165
Jan-July 1985	298	85

The latest figures show the importance of winning one big project in balance of trade terms. In 1981, Britain had a \$291m deficit on its two-way business with Egypt. Other British contractors have been involved recently, although on a much smaller scale than the Cairo Waste Water scheme. Higgs & Hill has completed Cairo's largest office block, and has contracts to build two hospitals. Bernard Sunley is engaged in putting up hotels and tourist facilities, whilst Cementation has built a bank.

Smaller, on the invisible exports side, Samuel Montagu is advising Egypt's new export bank, whilst Thomas Cook is helping develop tourism services.

Tripoli militias locked in fierce artillery duel

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Muslim militias were locked in battle in the Lebanese city of Tripoli yesterday and police said 28 people had been killed and 68 others wounded in two days of heavy fighting with artillery and rockets.

Most of the casualties, however, had little to do with the hostilities between the Sunni Muslim "Tawheen Islam" (Islamic Unification Movement) and gunmen of the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party, also known as the Arabian Knights.

According to police, 13 of those killed were civilians caught in crossfire; 10 others were Lebanese Army soldiers who died in their beds when mortar rounds hit their barracks on Sunday night. Forty other soldiers sleeping in the same dormitory were wounded. Only five of the people killed were militiamen.

The Lebanese Army has remained neutral since fighting

between Tripoli's two main militias ended more than two years ago. So has, at least visibly, the Syrian Army controlling north Lebanon. As usual, it was not clear what provoked the battles.

The Tawheen militia is trained and armed by the Palestine Liberation Organization faction of Mr Yasser Arafat. The Arabian Knights militia is made up mostly of Alawites, an offshoot sect of Islam, whose followers include Syria's rulers.

Reporters described the fighting as the heaviest in the port city since Mr Arafat and his loyalists were forced out by Syrian-backed PLO dissidents in December 1983.

They said the shelling struck at least three residential districts, starting several fires. Hundreds of families huddled in underground shelters and basements as the fighting brought the city to a standstill.

Peking old guard makes way for youth

From Mary Lee
Peking

The resignation of 10 elderly Politburo members, including Marshal Ye Jianying, aged 88, dominated the one-day plenary session of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee yesterday, thus clearing the decks for younger supporters of Mr Deng Xiaoping to be installed formally at the special national party conference which begins tomorrow.

The official Xinhua news agency said that Marshal Ye resigned because of "serious illness", which made him the only one of the six-member Politburo standing committee absent from the meeting at the Great Hall of the People.

Marshal Ye, one of China's most influential military leaders, also relinquished his post of vice-chairman of the powerful Central Military Commission.

Resignations of 64 Central Committee members, 37 members of the Central Advisory Commission and 30 members of the Central Discipline Inspection Commission were also accepted.

The other Politburo members who resigned were: Madame Yingchao, aged 81, the widow



Marshal Ye Jianying



General Ulanhu



Deng Yingchao



Li Desheng



Wang Zhen

of the late Prime Minister, Chou En-lai, Li Desheng, aged 69, former military commander of the Shenyang region; Marshal Xu Xiangqian, aged 85; Marshal Nie Rongzhen, aged 86; Wei Guoqing, aged 79; Zhang Tingfa, former commander of the Air Force; General Ulanhu, aged 81, the Mongol Vice-President; Wang Zhen, aged 77; and Song Renqiong, aged 76, all except Madame Deng had military backgrounds, while Marshal Xu and Marshal Nie are also vice-chairmen of the Central Military Commission, positions which they presumably retain.

Their places, according to the

Xinhua announcement, will be filled by "a number of enterprising and promising young and middle-aged cadres". Diplomats said their names will probably only be released when the conference ends, but Mr Hu Qili, aged 56, heir-apparent to party leader Mr Hu Yaobang, is expected to fill Marshal Ye's seat in the Politburo.

The communiqué of the plenum also said that it discussed and adopted in principle the Central Committee's proposal for the seven-year economic and social development plan which will be submitted to the party conference for deliberation.

The Politburo resignations did not surprise analysts, who nevertheless said it was still a significant victory for the Dengists.

"Many of them could not be ousted at the last party congress," said one diplomat, who described that session in 1982 as "a failure for Mr Deng". Another said: "Mr Deng may not be around for the next party congress (in 1987) so this conference had to be held to clear the decks."

He also quoted that three Dengist military leaders - Yang Shangkun, aged 78, Yang Deshi, aged 70, and Xi Zhongxun,

aged 72 - had not resigned despite their age.

The long party tribute to Marshal Ye described his "utter devotion" to the cause of Communism and his "unusual resourcefulness" at critical junctures in the party's history, particularly when he "stepped forward and joined other comrades in striking down the Jiang Qing Clique (The Gang of Four)".

However, the "rejuvenation" of membership of the Central Committee and two party commissions is not expected to produce the most dramatic news at the conference.

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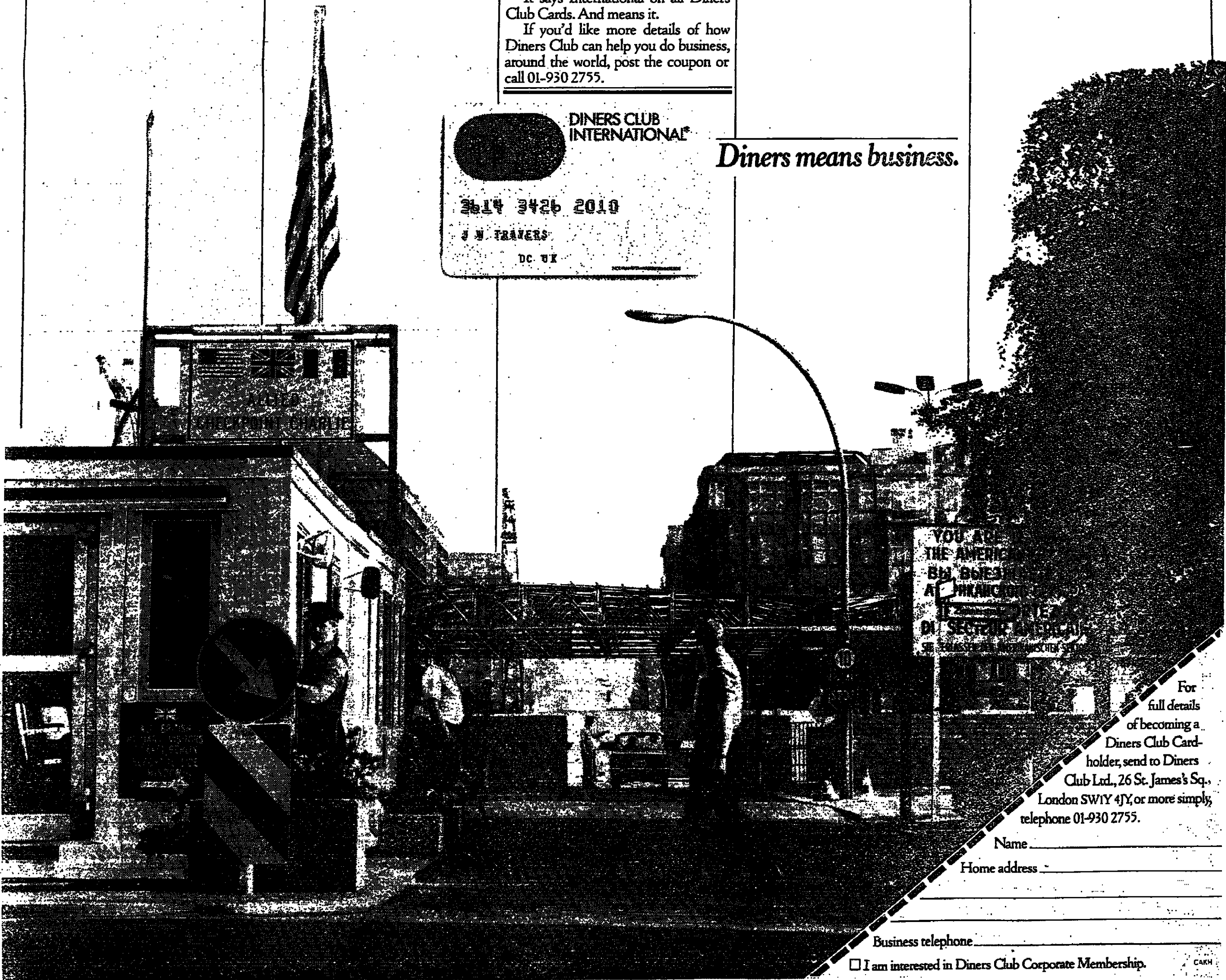
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CASH

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

MAN of FLOWERS

The sports coat has taken its revenge on the blouson. A new generation has turned to the traditional tweed tailoring that its fathers cast off.

New is the cut - generous in fit, straight-backed, shaped from a widened shoulder to a narrow hipline. Vents are short and wide-angled, almost at the side seams, so that hands can be pushed nonchalantly into the pockets of the pleat front trousers that partner the tweedy jackets.

Texture is the big story, for Harris tweed is now only one of many looks. Close-weave light-weight herringbones, wool flecked like carpet underfelt or pebble dash cement, flat-weave Prince of Wales and louder bookmaker checks, all make fabric the focus of attention.

Colour is also crucial, with the traditional heathery checks that provide autumnal camouflage challenged by sharper, brighter colours. There are acid yellow checks on grey, mud brown woven with blood red, chalky pastels like boudoir pink and almond green dotted on grounds of charcoal or black.

These are sophisticated jackets, designed for city wear. The most urban of the street styles, and the one which pioneered the return of the tailored jacket, is the Fifties drape, shawl-collared in band-leader checks, plaid or knubbed tweed. It is worn with narrow trousers, a stringy tie and a brooding James Dean pout.

The rest of the jackets are put with heavier trousers, rather than flannels. Tweed flecks and checks that tone with the jackets are the high fashion image, but so are cords, part of the strong seasonal feel for velvet. Thick elephant cords in earthy, country colours or the richer garnets and purples enrich their other half.

But flowers are the thing to soften up the tailoring. The summer's sweet cotton chintzes are now being harvested in russet colours and fleecier fabrics. Rich blackberry red, chrysanthemum bronze and pale corn are mixed together in floral prints for shirts, ties, silk cravats that tuck into the neck, or silk hankies for neckerchiefs and pockets. Sharper high street stores such as Next are packaging the tweeds and flowers for their male customers, while Liberty prints are high fashion for shirts again, not just in the store itself but with avant-garde



menswear designers like Stephen King.

Even sweaters are coming up with jacquard weave floral patterns, although that is a look that needs to be left on its own, put with a plain shirt and worn with restraint. The jumper for the jacket is the polo neck, in a colour that picks up the tone of the tweed, or worn under the patterned shirt that is left open at the neck.

The return of the flower patterned tie for the first time since the Sixties will make the staidest dresser into a man of flowers. The floral prints look newest as a profusion of pattern and texture, in brocade and jacquard weaves, mixing flowers and stripes with checked tweed. But one Liberty lawn tie, picking up the colours of a simple tweed jacket, is the first fruit of the new season's style.



Top: rainbow coloured tweedy jacket in pebble-dash of mauves, blues and cream on grey, £55, over flame pink, big collared cotton shirt with wistaria blooms on black, £23.99. Baggy tweed trousers with bold red check, £19.99, all from Gee 2, 65 South Molton Street, W1, and branches throughout the country. Discreet paisley print silk cravat, £11.99, from Principles, 72-76 High Street, Bromley. Bottom: Regular herringbone jacket with tiny red fleck in pure wool, £69.99. Grey flannel trousers, £29.99, both from Principles, 72-76 High Street, Bromley. 56 Church Street, Derby. Brightened up with fresh, floral, Liberty Tana lawn print cotton shirt, £55, by Stephen King at 53 Monmouth Street, WC2, and 315 King's Road, SW3. Pure silk tie with Marilyn Monroe motif, £15.99, from Gee 2, 65 South Molton Street, W1, and branches.

PARIS MEN
Tasteless touch of lace

Is Jean Paul Gaultier aiming to be the Buñuel of French fashion? A surreal mix of sex and religion dominated his menswear show in Paris last week.

From this most mocking and insolent of designers, we had the sexist male in black lace tights or a transparent curtain of a skirt. We also had singing nuns, black coat-dresses, white candles and the rosary as the latest accessory.

It all added up to a tasteless show that suggested that Gaultier has spent too much time down at Le Palace nightclub where he has designed the new uniforms. Behind the nonsense were some fun Mexican macho clothes, impeccable school tie striped tailoring and his shot-viscose knits that are already much copied at the Schum menswear show.

Elsewhere in Paris, the shows were well-paced and full of inventive clothes: Lucien Fonce's rich mixes of colour and texture and a series of striking sweaters with starfish motifs; Montana's globules of colour spreading over plain sweaters like the patterns on a lightbulb, and his elegant evening wear in textures of different black fabrics.

Lavin drew the new tailored silhouette right through the colourful sportswear line to the more formal clothes, where combinations of madras were used like toning tweed for summer jackets and trousers. Cerruti controlled the unstructured jacket by shaping it in at the back, taking the hunting



LUCIEN FONCEL
Fishing up pattern and colour

Top Centre: Tweed sports jacket in pure wool, £69.99. Blue and red tapestry print cotton shirt, £19.99. Jumbo cord trousers, £24.99, in peat grey. Red and blue striped tie, £10.99, all from Next for Men, 160 Regent Street, W1, and branches throughout the country. Pure wool Argyle socks, £4.99, from branches of the Sock Shop. Brown leather lace-up shoes, £49, also in black from Pied a Terre Rouge, 44 Old Bond Street, W1. Pied a Terre, 23 Dukes Lane, Brighton, and branches.

Top left: Paul Costelloe's herringbone tweed Norfolk jacket, £272, over abstract print wool shirt, £97.50. Grey jumbo cords, £69.99, all from a selection at Liberrys, Regent Street, W1, Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1, Strand, 22 Queen Victoria Street, Leeds, and Karim of Birmingham, Camel polo-neck sweater, £29, from Austin Reed, 103 Regent Street, W1, and branches. Boyish flat tweed cap, £35, by Herbert Johnson for Stephen King, 53 Monmouth Street, WC2, and 315 King's Road, SW3.

Above: Dapper elegance with Tommy Nutter's 'Distinct Check' tweed jacket, £225. Made-to-measure dandy brocade waistcoat, £150. Crisp burgundy and white striped cotton shirt, £40, silk floral tie £21. Buff-coloured corduroy trousers, £51, also in blue and brown. All from Tommy Nutter, 18-19 Savile Row, W1. Silver doctor's watch with brown leather strap, £235, from Paul Smith, 43-44 Floral Street, WC2, and branches. Brown leather lace-up brogues, £69.99, from Russell and Bromley, 24 New Bond Street, W1, and all men's branches.

Hair: Ann Matthews at TREVOR SORBYE Fashion Assistant: REBECCA TIRREL Photographs: JAMIE LONG

Angela Gore



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THE RIGHT RESPONSE

When Mr Gorbachov can present himself on his own terms he manages to fascinate western commentators with his aura of civility, strength in argument and the freshness of his presence when contrasted to those of his predecessors. When he does not have the initiative, however, it is a different story. Then he tends to behave with all the crudeness of the bully and at capacity for over-reaction which is a familiar feature of Soviet behaviour.

Mr Gorbachov dropped his card in London last year when an MP asked him about human rights in the Soviet Union. He is done so again now in his response to last week's expulsions of Soviet officials from London. They were modest in proportion to what they could have been in the light of Mr Gorbachov's disclosures about the extent of Soviet espionage in Britain.

There is a tendency with some politicians to treat intelligence matters concerning the Soviet Union as though there was little choice between the intelligence communities of the West and the East. That betrays a total lack of understanding about the range, persistence and totality of a Soviet approach to intelligence and subversion in Western countries. The basic criterion

which has to be applied is that every Soviet citizen who is allowed out to a western country is obliged to collect intelligence and report back to the KGB on every contact or experience during the period abroad. Thus although the official breakdown of the Soviet colony in London appears to suggest that about forty per cent of that community is "clean" in the sense that individuals do not hold official appointments either with the KGB or the GRU (military intelligence), that does not exonerate those individuals from providing all the intelligence they can acquire for the official services.

At a purely operational level, therefore, it is obviously to the West's advantage to expel spies as often and as noisily as possible. That disrupts their operation. It makes it difficult for named offenders to get other foreign postings in the west. It should also frighten off some potential indigenous recruits to the service of the KGB from among Britain's fellow travellers, or those in other western countries. The Foreign Office response last night was therefore entirely consistent with this view, and should be applauded.

Diplomats tend to object to this robust approach on the grounds that it might impair

"good relations" with the Soviet Union. They labour under an illusion which is that there is such a thing as "good relations" which do not have to bear a close connection with the reality of Anglo-Soviet contacts. "Good relations" is an abstraction which has little to commend it except as an indicator of whether or not ambassadors are being asked to the right parties in Moscow or received at the appropriate level in the foreign ministry.

"Good relations" are not achievable with the Soviet Union unless useful business is being discussed between London and Moscow and, in addition, Moscow is not mounting a sustained attempt to subvert and spy on this country through its diplomats, trade representatives, airline officials and journalists. We know that the Soviet offensive is unremitting. We should thus not fall into the trap of thinking that there can ever be "good relations" with Moscow while that offensive continues. We can merely hope for periods when we can conduct more serious business on trade or consular matters than in the past, without anybody pretending that secret hostilities have been suspended, because they never will be until the Soviet system itself is changed.

TORNADOES HAVE IT

The £3 billion sale by Britain of Tornados and Hawk aircraft to Saudi Arabia is surrounded by controversy and will continue to be so. Arms deals always are and is by no means among the most divisive. But there are several blanks to be filled in before any critical analysis of the deal can be completed.

In the first place, assuming that the Saudis are indeed paying for the money in the form of oil, we do not yet know the price at which the oil is changing hands. It is at the official Opec figure which will risk losing out on the change - at least to some extent. This is because when the oil is delivered, presumably the aircraft are complete, it will probably have to be re-sold on the spot market at a lower price than we have now agreed.

On the other hand if the Saudis have let it go below the Opec level, they themselves risk curbing the displeasure of their own members. Whatever they say in Riyadh there will be a suspicion that this is what they have done. Indeed the Saudis might even be signalling to Opec that if others break the rules they will henceforth expect that the Saudis will match their perfidy. Perhaps it is a lesson in discipline.

It is controversial in the Middle East because it appears

that the Tornados being sold are not the air defence variants (ADVs) but the attack or, officially, interdiction/strike (IDS) models. In other words Britain is supplying Riyadh not so much with the wherewithal to defend itself as with the ability to attack its enemies.

The lines between attack and defence are extremely blurred and the Saudis point out, not unreasonably, that the ability to counter-strike is a basic requirement for any modern air force. But we do not yet know where the Tornados will be stationed. If they are to be based at Tabuk they will pose a threat to Israel's southern port of Eilat, on the Red Sea, which Jerusalem has not been slow to realise. The Saudis would seem to have more to fear from some of their neighbours on the northern shores of the Gulf. But Whitehall does not appear to have placed any restriction upon where the Tornados should go and there are reports that Tabuk is their destination.

The deal will be most controversial in Paris where the French are still smarting over Mrs Thatcher's intervention in the bid to sell battlefield communications equipment to the United States. Last year the Mirage 2000 seemed at one time to have beaten the Tornado to the Saudi

contract, with the Franco-German Alpha-Jet completing the deal instead of the British Aerospace Hawk. That Britain would seem to have pulled itself from being one set down to being on the brink of game set and match, must be counted as something of an achievement for the Government.

What sacrifices we have had to make to win the contract remain unclear. But on the face of it, it could hardly have come at a better time. The sales potential of Tornado has suffered from its reputation - not entirely undeserved - of being an expensive option. This sudden show of confidence is a welcome boost just as Britain, West Germany, Italy and Spain are embarking on the Eurofighter project. The European aerospace industry as a whole must stand to benefit from it.

Not only that, but it has come just as British Aerospace is hoping to renew most of its 12-year-old lucrative support and training contract with the Saudi air force. This country has a respectable history of doing business with Saudi armed forces. Although the fine print of this contract remains to be read - and the contract still has to be signed - the indications are that this history is to continue.

RETURN OF THE TESTER

Dr David Lange's offer to go to France and talk to President Mitterrand is one the latter cannot reasonably refuse. Although both leaders probably get some domestic political advantage from conducting a public angling-match at opposite ends of the world, that is hardly the most sensible way for the rulers of two Western democratic countries (who happen, moreover, to be both members of the socialist International) to discuss their differences.

As long as the argument was purely concerned with the blowing up of the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour on July 10, France was clearly on the offensive. Although French opposition parties scrupulously avoided exploiting the scandal, it looked bad even to French commentators when the government had to admit that the Swiss couple arrested and charged with murder in New Zealand were in fact members of the French armed forces travelling with assumed names and false passports.

It may yet prove, as the Tricot report would have us believe, that their mission was purely to keep an eye on the Greenpeace vessel and that they had nothing to do with its destruction. The New Zealand police have been impeccably discreet about the

precise nature of the case they will present when the magistrates court hearing opens - provoking exasperation tinged with grudging respect for such insouciantly "anglo-saxon" behaviour among French reporters sent to cover the case. But even if the case is weaker than the police - and Mr Lange clearly believe - France will have difficulty in persuading the rest of the world that her conduct towards a friendly and peaceful nation has been above reproach.

But Mitterrand has moved adroitly in switching the limelight to France's nuclear testing programme and, more generally, her "presence in the Pacific". Here he is assured not just of the discretion of his domestic opponents but of their active, even enthusiastic support. There is a remarkable national consensus in France about the necessity of an independent nuclear deterrent, and it now seems almost quaint to recall that twelve years ago the Socialist party (led by F. Mitterrand) was in the forefront of some twenty French organizations asserting that nothing justified nuclear tests on security grounds, and they would only bring opprobrium on the country.

In those days the tests were still in the atmosphere. They have since gone underground.

That is not, of course, by any means the only reason for Mr Mitterrand's change of attitude but it does strengthen his position internationally. It exposes as purely cynical the Soviet attempt to cash in on anti-nuclear feeling in the Pacific since, as French spokesmen delight to point out, French tests in the Pacific are further from major population centres than Soviet tests are from France.

Also, the more France's dispute with New Zealand gets submerged in the general issue of denuclearizing the Pacific, the more France can be assured of support from her allies. This is, after all, the same Mr Lange who has incurred American wrath by banning US nuclear submarines from New Zealand's ports (and in principle takes the same attitude to British ones). At least until such time as other nuclear powers are ready to resume negotiations on a comprehensive test ban treaty, Mitterrand can snap his fingers at New Zealand on the nuclear issue - which is effectively what he did by his ostentatious journey to Mururoa last week.

If Mr Lange does go to Paris, he would be well advised to concentrate his arguments on the Greenpeace scandal rather than on the wider issue.

Loss of parish records

From Mr Hugh Peskett.
The theft of parish registers you report (August 31) highlights a defect in the Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978, that it lacks penal teeth. I drafted the original bill, which had its first reading in the House of Lords introduced by Lord Teviot.

It was then "taken over" by the General Synod, as a measure which incorporated my principal concept, to give parishes the option of providing their own secure and in-proof custody, subject to temperature and humidity being controlled within accepted limits, or alternatively depositing their older

records in the Diocesan Archives. But the Synod's revision left it with few penalties for default.

My original draft was prompted by, *inter alia*, a south country canon, who consigned parish records to the council rubbish dump by the sackful, a west country parish register which could be read only after wiping off the mildew, and a north country parish register found in a New York bookseller's. I have recently rescued by purchase a London parish register found in an English second-hand bookshop.

These documents are of value not only to genealogists and historians, but also to demographers, epidemiologists and even meteorologists. The

1978 measure requires no more than prudent custody of records and parishes have the simple option of completely discharging their duty by delegating custody to the county or diocesan archivist, free of expense.

Default (as it appears to have been) is therefore inexcusable. Can we hope that the ecclesiastical authorities will be sufficiently rigorous in this case to reassure everyone that the 1978 Measure has adequate "teeth" without further civil legislation to protect these archives of national importance?

Yours faithfully,
HUGH PESKETT,
1 Avenue Road, Winchester,
Hampshire.
September 11.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Realities of Handsworth violence

From The Reverend Richard Hunt
Sir, I believe that the majority of us who live in Handsworth agree that the violence, destruction and deaths which took place here this week are not justified by unemployment, poor housing, poverty and the pain of being black in a society where power is seen to be in white hands. But to imply that the riot has nothing to do with those factors, is in no way attributable to them, or can be explained without reference to them, is false.

When through television those outside hear causal connections made by excited young people to a Secretary of State, or by politicians miles away, or at meetings staged for the purpose of broadcasting, it may be possible to throw scorn on them. But these in positions of authority and influence far removed from the realities here - your esteemed readers, Sir - must realise that such convictions are also held, quietly but firmly, by very many of the citizens of all communities in our area, who are law-abiding but relatively powerless. This is so in families whose members are employed, as well as in households where none are. For employment is no protection against racism or abuse.

These are people who never take to the streets in anger, damage property, appear on television or in your columns. They hardly appear to complain. But my work takes me into their living rooms and into their confidence. They suffer and are weary of it. They see violence committed by their brothers and sisters and are ashamed of it.

But it conveys a truth about the oppression and suffering which they too experience here - a truth for those who can perceive it. That will not go away when the events of this week have been chronicled in minute detail and the courts have done their work.

Monday night was not the right time to say it, we believe, but will you hear us now?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HUNT,
Holy Trinity Vicarage,
213 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.
September 13.

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)
Sir, Professor Beer writes (September 13) from the peace and quiet of the Athenaeum in London. I wonder how many black faces he sees there? Has he any idea of how ordinary English and Indian and Pakistani people in Handsworth feel after those appalling riots? My Labour colleagues who represent the area did not speak in the Professor's terms.

What he says about the Government is absurd and untrue. If one can understand his somewhat unspecified phrases, industry has not been damaged by the Government, but by foreign competition. The teachers have shared responsibility by going on strike and now seem to be refusing an alternative offer on pay and prospects. Does the Professor really think that industry's troubles and the teachers' dispute

caused this dreadful violence in Handsworth?
He speaks disparagingly of the police, but British police are far less tough than those on the continent and many people in Handsworth felt the police presence was not strong enough.

I was brought up to respect professors, as I respect peers. Some professors during the Falklands dispute expressed views that were totally at variance with those of the British public. Professor Beer seems equally at sea with our own domestic problems.
Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES,
House of Commons,
September 13.

From Professor Peter H. Millard
Sir, No man is an island; my ward domestic's son's food shop burnt down in the Birmingham riot. The left Birmingham because there was no work, just empty office blocks. Now the competitive tendering exercise threatens his job here.

Empty office blocks, threatened health workers, dirty hospitals and dirty streets are all outward signs of social decay.
The Minister denies government responsibility for the Birmingham riot. Independence is a myth - we are all interdependent. Surely no-one in this nation can escape feeling in some way responsible?
Yours faithfully,
P. H. MILLARD,
Department of Geriatric Medicine,
St. George's Hospital Medical School, SW17.
September 12.

From Mr Cyril E. Bond
Sir, After Brixton, Toxteth and Handsworth can there really be any doubt that a paramilitary force is needed to deal with such outbreaks swiftly and effectively? It is important to investigate the causes of the Handsworth riot but it is now more important to be more ready for the next outbreak.

Enough force is needed at the right place and at the right time to contain and suppress the riot. The police cannot do this. The creation of a mobile highly-trained body to support the police is both urgent and realistic. Nothing less can reassure citizens in areas at risk.
Yours faithfully,
CYRIL E. BOND,
37 Clifford Avenue,
Taunton, Somerset.
September 14.

From Mr David Green
Sir, A respect for property is only general among those who have some, or the reasonable prospect of acquiring some.
Toxteth and Handsworth will recur so long as our society contains sizeable groups of people who know that their destiny is to look it upon its wealth always from the outside.
Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN,
Rhyd yr Harding,
Castle Morris, Nr Haverfordwest.
September 13.

and "second strike" refer specifically to an exchange of nuclear weapons. A "second strike" is used to describe nuclear retaliation by a power which has already been attacked by nuclear weapons.
It is therefore possible for a country or an alliance to have simultaneously both a "first use" and a "second strike" policy. As this is, in fact, the policy of Nato, it is important that the distinction should be kept clear in your readers' minds.
Yours sincerely,
CHALFONT,
65 Ashley Gardens,
Westminster, SW1.
September 11.

Nuclear terms defined

From Lord Chalfont
Sir, In your perceptive leading article on SDP defence policy (September 11) there was one phrase which might confuse your readers unless it is corrected. You referred to amendments to the party's document, described by their proposers as designed to abandon "first use" nuclear capability (by reducing nuclear weapons to "second strike" deterrence).

These amendments make no sense. "First use" and "no first use" refer to policies covering the use of nuclear weapons in response to a conventional attack. "First strike"

and "second strike" refer specifically to an exchange of nuclear weapons. A "second strike" is used to describe nuclear retaliation by a power which has already been attacked by nuclear weapons.
It is therefore possible for a country or an alliance to have simultaneously both a "first use" and a "second strike" policy. As this is, in fact, the policy of Nato, it is important that the distinction should be kept clear in your readers' minds.
Yours sincerely,
CHALFONT,
65 Ashley Gardens,
Westminster, SW1.
September 11.

Calling the tune

From Professor Emeritus Hugh Cameron McLaren
Sir, Bernard Levin's protest (September 12) at the political screening of musicians brought back a memory from 1939 when I was a post-graduate medical student in Berlin.

At a church of a Sunday the pastor was permitted to read from the Old Testament provided no mention was made of Jews. He took this "verse-hopping" seriously no doubt with an eye on the man with the notebook in the congregation.
Yours etc,
HUGH CAMERON McLAREN,
26 Ampton Road, Birmingham.
September 12.

Gartcosh closure

From the Chairman of the British Steel Corporation
Sir, The article by Dr Jeremy Bray in your issue of September 10, "Steel: Don't sell Britain short", was so full of misapprehensions that I feel it necessary to respond.

For some time now, Dr Bray has been a constant critic of the BSC's forecasting methods. Only recently, we gave him fresh evidence showing that BSC, over the last four years, has accurately predicted market trends. Ironically, it is exactly the realized wishes of critics like Dr Bray which have been responsible for much of BSC's past losses, in that production capability has been installed for beyond any foreseeable demands.

The gestation period of over-optimistic planning is very long. Indeed, it was back in 1974 that the BSC predicted - against all the market forecasts of international producers of iron and steel - the decline that has since beset the industry on a worldwide scale.

In support of his argument for the retention of all existing capacity, Dr Bray refers to an increase in UK liquid steel output from 14 million tons in 1982 to an annual rate of over 17 million tons currently. This observation also we find disappointing since we have been to consider-

Unkind visions

From Mr G. Davidson
Sir, There is in the Imperial War Museum a war-time photograph of General Montgomery talking to his Majesty King George VI with one hand in his pocket.

I wonder if the Germans regarded the general as a "discloth man", as mentioned by Mr Robinson in his letter today (September 6). Since he managed to wipe up a considerable number of them during the course of the war, perhaps they did.

Yours faithfully,
G. DAVIDSON,
36 Thorpwood Avenue, SE26.
September 6.

Soviet objectives remain the same

From Mr Miles Copeland (Snr)
Sir, The KGB, the Komitet Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosti, or Soviet "Committee of State Security", descendant of the Cheka, GPU, OGPU, NKVD, and NKGB, has until recently been no more than an arm of the Soviet Government intent on stealing our secrets, undermining the loyalty of our citizens, and stimulating "class warfare" where it suits Soviet purposes. It is now something considerably more dangerous, however.

Now that the Soviets have given up any notions they may have had (if they ever had any) of attacking us with nuclear weapons (a confrontation of the first kind), or starting a conventional war in which they would wind up fighting each other instead of NATO armies (a confrontation of the second kind), they have descended to a war of subversion, terrorism, "freedom fighting", and other forms of conventional warfare (confrontations of the third kind) which depend on Western weaknesses rather than Soviet strengths, and are the specialty of the KGB.

Thus the whole thrust of Soviet strategy on the international gameboard is quite literally built around the KGB's worldwide capabilities for clandestine warfare. And, although no-one in our diplomatic or intelligence services is likely to tell us the whole story (and they shouldn't), we can be sure that those KGB employees who have been expelled from Britain had a much wider range of interests than mere espionage.

In any case, the most erroneous notion concerning the Gordievsky affair is that it could "adversely affect Anglo-Soviet relations". In the first place, our respective intelligence services are always trying to outdefect personnel of the other (the Soviets had their Philby, Burgess and McLean, and we have our Shevchenko and Gordievsky) and neither side is as horrified as (necessarily) pretends to be. It may serve the psychological warfare purposes of one side or the other to cry "foul" occasionally, to send diplomats packing for "activities improper for accredited diplomats", and so on, but after the affair is off the front pages life goes on. We should remind ourselves every now and then that Soviet objectives have not changed since Lenin first enunciated them, and neither have ours.

Yours,
MILES COPELAND (Snr),
3 The Green,
Aston Rowant,
Oxford.
September 14.

Alliance leadership

From Dr Hugh Mason
Sir, Mr Adam Butler drew a picture (September 11) of disheartened and disenfranchised SDP and Liberal voters. I doubt very much, however, whether the picture was drawn from life. In this constituency the Liberals fought far harder and far longer than most to persuade the two parties that it should remain a Liberal-led seat, yet with few exceptions the party members gave time, money and effort to ensure the election of the present SDP member for the constituency.

Canvassing on the doorstep revealed that almost invariably Liberal supporters would ideally have preferred to vote Liberal but recognised that this would not be sensible under our present electoral system. Many saw the SDP as distinctly second best but considered it greatly preferable to vote for the SDP candidate than to see the return of another Conservative. Local elections indicate that SDP supporters are similarly realistic when faced with Liberal candidates.

As for the key to Number 10, Mr Butler surely elevates the importance of this matter. It is one of the strengths of our democracy that we elect a parliament and not a presidential-style leader.

Whichever of the Davids eventually holds that key, it is unlikely that they will seek to emulate Goliath's role as sole and supreme champion of the people. It will then be a matter of little consequence which of them is actually the householder.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH MASON,
(Liberal) Party Agent, Portsmouth South constituency,
32 Chelsea Road,
Southsea,
Hampshire.
September 11.

now reorganised itself into three major sites, with significant reductions in overheads and hence much increased efficiency of operation.

Dr Bray fails to mention that only about 25 per cent of Ravenscraig liquid steel production is processed at Gartcosh and also that less than 3 per cent of the product which Gartcosh produces is consumed in Scotland. The relationship, therefore, between Gartcosh and Ravenscraig is of far less significance than he would have us believe. The future of Ravenscraig is not going to be determined by the closure of Gartcosh and those who persist in this argument are doing a real disservice to all our employees at Ravenscraig.

Finally, we should reflect that some of the people who are now championing the cause of Ravenscraig/Gartcosh were trying during the miners' strike to close them down, although Dr Bray was an exception. We in BSC, admirably supported by our Scottish management and workforce, were determined to preserve Ravenscraig and succeeded. Further, we have recently spent £24 million on refurbishing the blast furnaces there.

Yours faithfully,
BOB HASLAM, Chairman,
British Steel Corporation,
4 Albert Embankment, SE1.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 17 1830

The opening of the Liverpool and Manchester railway on September 15 was marred by the accident which befell William Huskisson (1770-1830) a former Cabinet minister who died shortly after the time of our correspondent's dispatch.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT TO MR. HUSKISSON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LIVERPOOL, halfpast 8 o'clock Wednesday night.
I have just returned from our journey along the rail-road from Liverpool to Manchester, and back again; and though I had intended to give you some faint description of this astounding work of art, of the crowds which have lined almost every inch of our road, of flags and banners, and booths and scaffoldings, and gorgeous tents, which have enlivened even the dullest parts of our journey, I am obliged, on account of the lateness of the hour, to defer that description as comparatively uninteresting, owing to the fatal accident (as I apprehend) that has befallen Mr. Huskisson. The cavalcade, if I may apply such a term to a party riding by steam, was extremely splendid: it started from Liverpool at a quarter to 11 o'clock, the first 16 miles of the journey was performed in the most delightful manner, amid the most enthusiastic shouts from the people. I was myself in one of the cars attached to the Phoenix engine, which up to the time of the hall followed immediately after the car reserved for the Duke of Wellington, Lord Hill, Sir Robert Peel, and the rest of the guests invited to Liverpool upon this occasion. When the Duke's car halted, ours passed him, and proceeded some 300 yards in front of him to take in water. The passengers had dismounted, and were conversing in various groups, when they were all thrown into great alarm by seeing a gentleman running hastily from the Duke's car, and by hearing him call out, "Is there any defect person in that company?" Every body anticipated some dreadful accident. He wisely refused to answer the questions put to him as to the nature of it, until he had ascertained that no medical gentleman was present.

From all that I can learn from eye-witnesses, the unfortunate event of which I am now going to give you the details, happened in the following manner: Mr. Huskisson was descending with Mr. Joseph Sanders, one of the principal originators and promoters of this rail-road. ... Before he left Mr. Sanders, he said to that gentleman, "Well, I must go and shake hands with the Duke on this day at any rate." The gentleman who had called him aside detained him some time, and whilst he was standing with them, the Rocket engine, which, like the Phoenix, had to pass the Duke's car, to take up its station at the watering place, came slowly up, and as the engineer had been for some time checking its velocity so silently that it was almost upon the group before they observed it. In the hurry of the moment all attempted to get out of the way. Mr. Holmes, M.P., who was standing by the side of Mr. Huskisson, desired the gentleman not to stir, but to cling close by the side of their own car - most excellent advice, had it been followed - for as no engine can move off the rail, any person who stands clear of it, is perfectly safe from danger. Unfortunately, in the hurry and agitation of the moment, Mr. Huskisson did not pursue this advice. He hesitated, staggered a little as if not knowing what to do, then attempted to run forward, found it impossible to get off the road, on account of an excavation of some 14 or 15 feet depth being on that side of it, on which it was attempted again to get into the car, was hit by a motion of the door as he was mounting a step, and was thrown down directly in the path of the Rocket, as that engine came opposite to the Duke's car. He contrived to move himself a little out of its path before it came in contact with him, otherwise it must have gone directly over his head and breast. As it was, the wheel went over his left leg, squeezing it almost to a jelly, broke the leg, it is said, in two places, laid the muscles bare from the ankle, nearly to the hip, and tore out a large piece of flesh, as it left him. Mrs. Huskisson, who, along with several other ladies, witnessed the accident, uttered a shriek of agony, which none who heard will ever forget. ... In a few minutes afterwards Mr. Huskisson fainted away; and in that condition was removed, as carefully as circumstances would allow, into the car, in which the hand of music preceding the Duke's car had been placed. The musicians were immediately turned out of it, and Mrs. Huskisson, Mr. Wainwright (Mr. Huskisson's private secretary), and several other of Mr. Huskisson's private friends took their places. The Duke's car was detached from the Northumbrian engine, and fastened laterally to the two engines, the Phoenix and North Star. The Northumbrian engine then having no other weight to draw but the car which had carried the band, and which was now occupied by Mr. Huskisson and his party, proceeded at a rapid rate to Manchester to procure medical assistance. As it passed by our car Mr. Huskisson was laid at the bottom of it, pale and ghastly as death, and his wife was hanging over him in an agony of tears. He was carried on to Eccles, a village within four miles of Manchester; and after his arrival there, was removed to the house of the Rev. Mr. Blackburn, the rector of that place, where he now remains.

Passenger pigeons

From Lord Greenhill of Harrow

Sir, Mr Price's letter (September 10) draws attention to the intelligence of pigeons. My wife wrote similarly in your columns in December, 1968, and received supporting evidence in letters from all over the world.

May I offer a further example? Some years ago I observed a flock of racing pigeons flying alongside the cross-channel steamer from Calais to Dover. At about mid-point a single pigeon at the rear detached itself from the flock and alighted on a lifeboat davit. It remained resting until shortly before Dover when it rejoined, no doubt considerably refreshed, its fellow competitors. I could think of no way of betraying its intelligent deceit.

Yours,
GREENHILL OF HARROW,
House of Lords,
September 10.

THE ARTS

Galleries

Influential distance

Gwen John/Roderic O'Connor/Vera Cunningham

Barbican Art Gallery

The Glasgow Boys/Joseph Crawhall/Edwin Alexander/Alexander Mann
Fine Art Society

Gwen John (1878-1939) and Roderic O'Connor (1860-1940) were reasonably close contemporaries, and both, British-born, spent most of their life in France. O'Connor from 1887 until his death, John from 1904 until hers. They moved in very different circles of the French art world: John mainly in the orbit of Rodin, whose model and mistress she was, O'Connor much more with the Pont Aven disciples of Gauguin, among whom he himself could be counted a significant figure. And for all the superficial parallels in their lives, it would be hard to imagine two more different artists.

Perhaps even too different to be shown together, as they are at the Barbican Art Gallery until November 3, without one or other, or both, suffering from the juxtaposition. It all depends, really, on whether you are the kind of purist art-lover who cannot take in a picture except in immaculate isolation on a blank white wall. Such people should make a point of going to the Barbican on two separate days (or three, since there is a third very distinctive artist present); both the major shows are well worth the trouble, and they might well otherwise find that Gwen John's whisper was drowned out by Roderic O'Connor's unabashed bellow, or that, on the other hand, after the delicacy of the downstairs show the upstairs would look unbearably coarse and casual. For other, less finely-tuned natures, the glaring contrast between the two may well be a source of pleasure, each artist unconsciously setting off the other's better qualities.

Of the two, Gwen John is the bigger attraction these days. Hers was throughout her life a muted, interior art, working in a tiny range of pale colours and confining itself mainly to portraits of women and girls, with the occasional still-life or flower piece,

and very rarely venturing out of doors. To appreciate Gwen John, one must attune oneself to a world of nuance, a murmur of paint, almost too faint to carry across a room.

And yet there is nothing feeble about these small, finely graded works. If her women look lost in wan reverie, or about to pose a half-formulated question to the world, there is strength in the attitude, stubbornness almost, and there is nothing sentimental in the way Gwen John sees them. Even her self-portraits have the same feeling that the artist is looking at the sitter with a cool, level gaze that is at the same time strangely merciless. And this show is just about the right size: more than 120 works leaves us ready to argue a little on inclusions and exclusions, but not really wanting too much more, lest consistency turn insensibly to monotony.

O'Connor is a very different matter. He is not, at his best, a subtle painter; when many of Gauguin's disciples turned to a species of Pointillism, he evolved his own version which distributed colours in strips instead of dots but had ultimately a similar effect of coalescing optically at the right distance. But whereas the Pointillism of Delvallée or Bernard, or even Gauguin himself, usually has a cooling, distancing effect, in O'Connor it tends to heat things up, giving his colours an almost feverish intensity which clearly looks forward to the Fauves of the next generation. Some of the Breton landscapes from the 1890s are indeed rather awkwardly painted, with a roughness which does not seem entirely deliberate.

The show at the Barbican, curated by Ray Johnston, seems to be fairly representative of O'Connor's development - in the sense that the painter is shown quite generously and by no means always at his best. On the whole, the smaller paintings are the most effective: the two seascapes, from around 1898, with pink foam and with a yellow sky, which were recently noticed at Pym's Gallery in their last Irish show, still stand out for a magical quality in the colouring. O'Connor's development from then on was fairly predictable: he continued his experiments with hot colour, notably in a series of female nudes which make clear his connection with the younger painter - an influence the younger painter was always glad to acknowledge - and he painted further landscapes in what was eventually to be regarded as the Fauve manner.

Opera

Britain's only Ring

Götterdämmerung
New Theatre
Cardiff

They have made it. The Welsh National Opera Ring, which began with some promise three years ago, may have allowed most of one's hopes to leak away, but at least it has been brought to a steady conclusion, giving the company the only cycle currently on offer in this country. On Saturday the *Götterdämmerung* was introduced by itself, and not, as might have been expected, within the context of a complete Ring. That will come later, and should provide the opportunity for Göran Javelle's production to gain some substance - and for Carl Friedrich Oberle's sets and costumes to be made a little less awful.

But much is already admirable, not least the Brünnhilde of Anne Evans. This is not a part for which she was born: vocally she is much more a new woman than the ex-Valkyrie. However, she has grown continuously in strength and ardour throughout the cycle, and on Saturday she was still growing as the final

opera proceeded, so that in the ringing, thrilling tone, firmly in place. All she needs is more sympathetic support from both producer and conductor.

The honesty of her vocal performance is unusual and touching, and deserves to be sustained by something more than the coarsest cliché. It also deserves to be accompanied more solidly. Richard Armstrong's tendency is to rush at the immediate expressiveness of the cycle, and that worked disastrously when combined with Miss Evans's direct feeling at such moments as Brünnhilde's dejection at Siegfried's faithlessness.

It may be that Mr Armstrong is trying to undercut Wagner's symphonic pretensions, but that would have to be done in a more sophisticated manner, particularly in a Ring which has included a quite magnificent performance of *The Valkyrie* score under Sir Reginald Goodall. It would also need more secure orchestral playing.

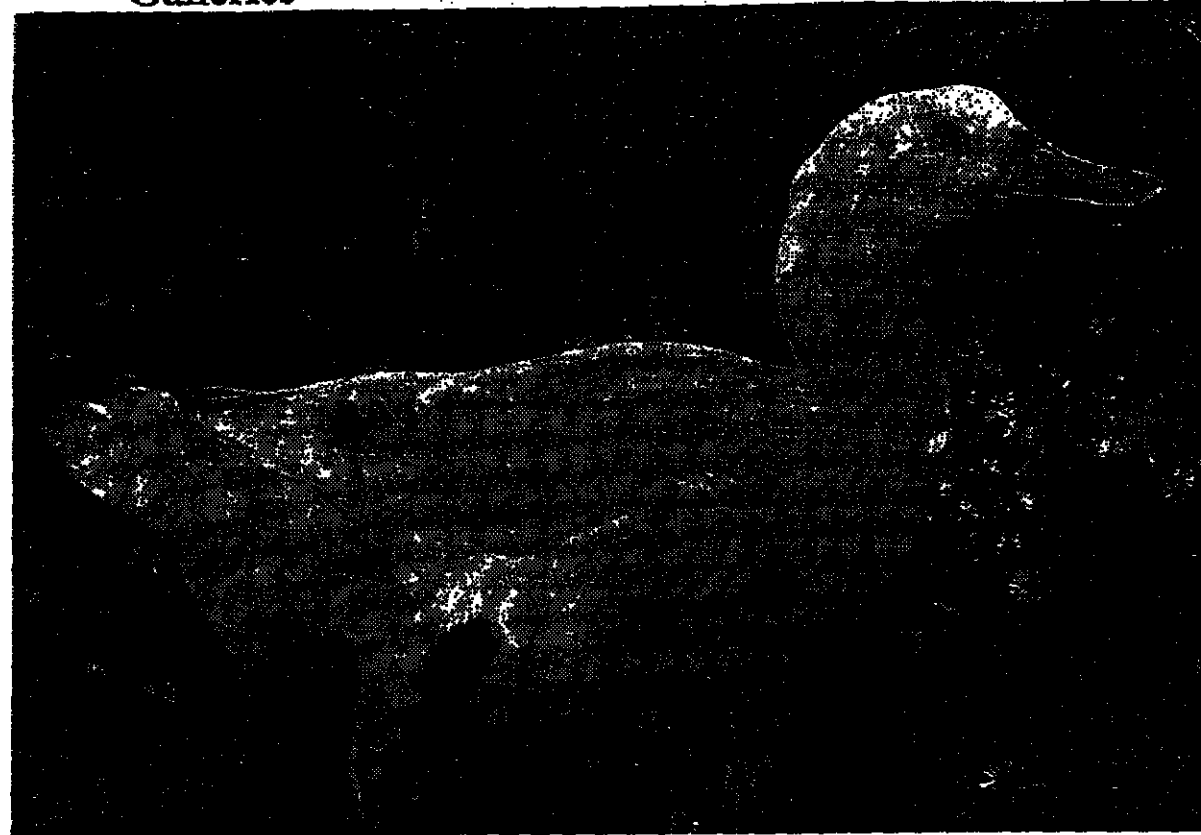
It is the lack of visual magic, however, that most depresses. I cannot report on the Norns scene, having been held up in a monstrous queue at the Severn

Bridge, but the rest of the first act brings back the painful fake rocks from *The Valkyrie* and *Siegfried* besides introducing a Gibichung hall that looks like a cheap and shoddy version of the Chateau vision, if with a sprinkling of Ring-like design. The Swedish motif continues: in the second and third acts we have embroidered skirts and blond boys. Meanwhile the Chateau influence, which had been notable in the *Rheingold*, is displaced by that of Hall, which had started to appear in the *Siegfried*. The second act is dominated by sacrificial totems, with the flower-bestrewn double wedding celebrated at that of Fricka, and the third act opens with the world in autumn.

These are pleasant conceits, but they are given no deep grounding, either in the works or in dramatic plausibility. Mr Javelle evades his responsibilities and opportunities in the big orchestral interlude by bringing the curtain down, and his spectacle at the end is weak. He copies Chateau's massed grouping, then bizarrely leaves Guttrune alone: are we to expect another Walsung hero?

This Guttrune is sportingly played and sung by Kathryn Harries, who successfully combines moral weakness with an authoritative stage presence. There is also an unusual Gunther, only of manner and strong on voice from Jack Strachan, and John Hagen is individual too: a lean, voiceless, hunched-backed black praying-mantis who might be even more dangerous if he were directed more accurately. It is good to see Nicholas Falwell's bleak Alberich back, and one even gains some affection for Jeffrey Lawton's burly boy of a Siegfried, no vocal hero but generously splashing the lyrics around.

Paul Griffiths



The White Drake by Joseph Crawhall, who painted birds with rare delicacy and precision

(even though O'Connor had reached it first).

With the years he became increasingly isolated, mistrusting dealers and showing almost entirely at the annual Salons in Paris, so that, counting as neither properly French nor properly British, he slipped from notice in both countries. The exact chronology of his later work is very difficult to establish, but it does seem that towards the end he began to lighten his palette and paint in a drier manner which is rather attractive. But it is unlikely that there will ever be a consensus of opinion about him: how one reacts is very much a matter of temperament, and tends to extremes of delight or distaste. At least after this show, the first real retrospective, it will never be possible just to ignore him.

The third painter on show takes up, in a sense, the same connection of O'Connor, since she is Vera Cunningham, best remembered these days as Smith's favourite model - rather than as a professional and highly individual painter in her own right, owing, oddly enough, nothing at all to Smith in her style and subject matter. She painted

grotesque and fantastic people, a little like those of Mervyn Peake gone slightly awry, and drew portraits always hovering on the verge of caricature, though saved from that by a certain visionary force. The drawings on show here are admirable; the paintings more a matter of taste, though authentically weird.

If the Barbican seems bursting at the seams with three distinct shows, the Fine Art Society goes one better with four (until October 4). Admittedly, there are interconnections, since almost all the artists represented have strong links with Glasgow and appear in Roger Billcliffe's new book *The Glasgow Boys* (John Murray, £35), a scholarly, comprehensive and splendidly illustrated study of Glasgow painting between 1875 and 1895.

If we want to check the accuracy of the colour plates we can do so, in several key cases, by looking at the originals in the Glasgow Boys show, with which the publication is being marked: among many pleasures, perhaps the Mediterranean watercolours of Arthur Melville stand out for their undimmed brilliance of colour, and there is one superb Joseph Crawhall, composed with an orienta-

list oddity, to supplement the Crawhalls upstairs.

Crawhall is a rare artist, mainly because all of his works were snapped up early on by connoisseurs such as Sir William Burrell and lodged permanently in public collections. But this small, choice selection (the Fine Art Society's main Edinburgh Festival contribution) makes it abundantly clear that few painters have ever observed birds and horses with such delicacy, precision, and aesthetic independence. You can see the difference immediately if you look at the work of the solitary Edinburgh native here, Edwin Alexander, who covered the same sort of territory with much confidence and charm, but little of Crawhall's ability to snatch a grace beyond the reach of art. In his own way, Alexander Mann had that; this gallery's major show has a year or two back was a small revelation, and now there is a whole sketchbook which, page by page, demonstrates his skill, his nerve, and his perfect taste. It shakes no foundations, but it is certainly an unalloyed pleasure to see.

John Russell Taylor

The chamber musical of *Gigi* reaches the West End at last tonight. Alan Jay Lerner, who wrote the book and lyrics, talks to Sheridan Morley

The most literate of librettists

Alan Jay Lerner's father was the heir to a wealthy American department-store family who decided, early in the 1930s, that he could not bear the way Americans spoke. Accordingly his middle and favourite son, then aged about 13, was sent to school at Bedales, thereby opening up a lifelong devotion to this country which has resulted half a century later in Mr Lerner coming to live in London and marry, after several less successful trips to the altar, an English singer. Even after Bedales, however (not to mention Choate, Columbia Grammar and Harvard class of 1940) Lerner was less than entirely happy, according to Alan Jay, with his son's educational progress.

After I had won several Broadway and Hollywood awards for the lyrics of *Brigadoon*, he sent for me and said that he had counted the number of different words I had used in that score and it amounted to 297. This in his view was not enough to make a living as a songwriter, and he offered to send me back to college for a further term. I decided I would rather stay on Broadway.

And the rest is of course a kind of history: Mr Lerner this year becomes the first lyricist ever to win a Kennedy Award, which seems apt, since the late president was not only a Choate and Harvard graduate but also the man who, for better or worse, turned Lerner's *Camelot* from a Broadway hit into a national slogan about brief, shining moments. But of the 12 shows that are now reckoned to make money whenever and wherever they are staged in America, no less than four are Lerner's (*Fair Lady*, *Paint Your Wagon*, *Camelot* and *Brigadoon*) while no student of the Broadway musical could doubt that he remains the most literate of all librettists.

As he is the first to admit, however, the last 15 years have not been easy, since Frederick Loewe, the composer with whom he had worked all his life, retired Lerner has written shows with Burton Lane (*On a Clear Day You Can See Forever*), Andre Previn (*Coco*) and Leonard Bernstein (*1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*) as well as what he calls "some recent Titanic". None of them has ever echoed the success he once knew with Fritz.

"A musical partnership is like a marriage: very few work, and you're talking to somebody who should know. Not all my shows since Fritz retired have been disasters: *Coco* made money because of Katharine Hepburn, and *On a Clear Day* is still the most recorded of all the songs on my shelf. But I'll agree there have been a lot more flops lately. In the end, though, it's the shelf that matters, not the individual show, and a flop is not a crime against humanity." Lerner's fascination with the



Remembering it well: Alan Jay Lerner

Europe where he was educated led him to Scotland for *Brigadoon* and Bernard Shaw for *My Fair Lady* and *I, H. White* for *Camelot*; it also led him to Paris for his score of *Gigi* which is only now, at the Lyric Theatre on Shaftesbury Avenue tonight, to receive its London stage premiere fully 30 years after it was first written.

"I'd always been fascinated by the short stories of Colette, and while we were on the road with *My Fair Lady*, Arthur Freed, who ran the musicals department at MGM where I'd done *Brigadoon* and the screenplay of *American in Paris*, suggested that I might think about *Gigi* as a musical."

"I thought that was a wonderful idea but Fritz said he utterly refused to write music for the cinema, so that was that. At least until *My Fair Lady* opened. Then I decided to try and change Fritz's mind, so I worked out a screenplay and sent it to him in the Caribbean and he called saying 'My boy's wonderful' and so we went to Paris and started work."

Only then did Lerner discover, somewhat to his surprise, that the *Gigi* he had always known only as a short story had already been done on stage by both Leslie Caron and Audrey Hepburn as a straight play. Miss Caron had also done his *American in Paris*, and was therefore a natural choice for MGM, although Lerner lost his battle to get Dirk Bogarde cast in the Louis Jourdan role.

"The focal point of that film, though, was Chevalier. The character he played, the uncle, is only mentioned once and fleetingly in the story, but I was determined to bring him into the script simply because I'd always wanted to write for Maurice. The film didn't have an easy start. Mianelli spent four days auditioning swans for one of the park scenes, and the roughcut was at least a half-hour too long. But then we reshot a couple of the numbers including *I Remember It Well*, and the end of that year we won more Academy Awards than any other film before or since - ten in all."

Lerner himself got two of them, for screenplay and song, but another 15 years were to elapse before anyone thought of doing *Gigi* on Broadway. "That was really a mistake, and I should have seen it coming because I've always known that *Gigi* is essentially a very small show, a musical play rather than a musical. But it was given the big-band Broadway treatment, and of course that fragile Colette plot simply couldn't stand the weight of the scenery or the orchestrations. Originally they were just going to do it in Los Angeles and I figured nobody ever went there so that they took it to New York and although Daniel Massey was wonderful in the Louis Jourdan role of the lover, the rest of it just didn't work. It was like putting a saddle on a pike."

So another 15 years went by, and Lerner has decided how he really wants to do it: as a small-scale period piece, as though a French play of 1901 had been rediscovered and given some songs. "I've written about nine new pages of lyrics, rewritten some of the songs we added for Broadway, and set words to a lot of the original background music that Fritz wrote for the film. In an era of Sondheim and Webber it will be interesting to see how this kind of nostalgia is received."

Rock
Songs written with soulWomack & Womack
Dominion

After many years in the back room composing songs for such luminaries as Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett and Teddy Pendergrass, Cecil and Linda Womack undoubtedly have the material and the skills, to advance into the warmer glow of the spotlight as performers in their own right. On record, as last year's album and single "Love Wars" demonstrated, they have no problems, but as a live act they are still not entirely convincing.

Supported by an adequate although anonymous six-piece backing band, they sang a selection of their haunting, svelte soul songs. Frequently written in a minor key, the tough and tender overtones of the melodies were conveyed with rich poignancy by Linda's pure, strong voice, and her husband's contrasting harder

tones. The emotional rough and tumble of a loving relationship was a theme which recurred throughout in songs such as "Eyes" and the current single "No Relief", while the husband and wife interaction was played to good effect with the two of them engaging in stylish, affectionate ad lib passages towards the end of most songs.

But the humdrum lighting, immobile backing musicians and slow pacing of what was a fairly brief set, gave the performance a somewhat perfunctory air. Little was added to the excitement one might derive from listening to the records, and indeed the rather rushed rendition of "Love Wars" lacked the brooding authority and drama of the recorded version. Despite some last minute running around by Cecil, the overall impression, of excellent songs played with a lack of projection, remained.

David Sinclair

Television

Louisiana linguistics

I always thought that "coons", the slang for a Cajun came from "coon", the inference being that these French-speaking Americans from Louisiana were "white niggers". But, as I discovered in *The Cajuns* (Channel 4, Monday) it comes from the 1940s for an unlicensed prostitute. Apparently these were the women with which the Cajuns in the American army associated after the liberation of France. The Cajuns are an ethnic minority of whom most people have heard, but little is known.

I had hoped *The Cajuns* would enlighten me, but unfortunately it did not. The derivation of coons was one of its few facts. The programme began interestingly with a profile of Maurice, an old man who looked like a Texan, but could only speak French and was a mainstay of his local town's Cajun band. The second section looked at the Mardi Gras celebrations, when for a day the Lords of Misrule govern the Cajun area of Southern Louisiana. The revelers seemed to be French speaking but halfway through, the commentator announced that most of them worked on the oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico and had lost their French. The idea of the hard hats coming home for a day of pagan celebration was intriguing but the programme sadly did not follow it up.

In the third part those

concerned with the preservation of the French language were interviewed. Though their hearts are in the right place they came over as condescending and arrogant. (Why do those committed to the preservation of minority languages always have to adopt a tone of hectoring self-righteousness?) Finally, the programme returned to Maurice and the question of whether the French language would survive in Louisiana or not. The last shot was of the sun setting over the marshes beyond Maurice's house and the implication presumably was that it will not.

But by this stage the film had abandoned clarity of thought (which was never its strongest point) in favour of a sentimental glorification of the dying struggles of this minority. No programme-maker likes to pass up the opportunity to lament, but in this case Gwynn Pritchard's achievement back-fired. *The Cajuns* was made by the Harlech television company which serves Wales, and perhaps that was the problem. Because the programme have focused on the difficulties of a minority language, which would no doubt be of particular interest to native Welsh-speakers, or should it have aimed at being a rounded portrait of a culture which would not emphasize this parochial issue? The film tried to do both, and it did not work.

Carlo Gèbler

CHRISTIE'S

The Autumn Season at Christie's King Street begins on Thursday 19 September with a sale of Claret and White Bordeaux.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

However, its trade-weighted index still remained on the lower side, at 80.8, compared with 81.0 on Friday, after 80.6

Against the mark, sterling slipped to 3,878.00, from 3,885.50 on Friday. Few dealers were prepared to alter positions significantly.

FORWARD RATES

	1 month	3 months
	103-0 30c prem	103-1 00c prem
	0 43-0 34c prem	106-0 93c prem
	20-13c prem	6 -5 1/2c prem
	3 1/2 -2 0c prem	9 -7 40c prem
	25-10c prem	63-30 1/2c prem
	2 1/2 -2 0c prem	6 -6 1/2c prem
	85-405c disc	415 -1 1/2c disc
	100-100c disc	25 -130c disc
	1 gram -1st disc	5 -12c disc
	1 -1re disc	4 -10c disc
	3 1/2 -40c prem	4 1/2 -3c prem
	3 1/4 -40c prem	9 -10 1/2c prem
	1 -1 1/2y prem	1 3/4 -37c prem
	1 1/4 -1 1/2y prem	5 -2 1/2c prem
	1 -1 1/4c prem	5 -2 1/2c prem

80.8 1/2 cent's range 80.5-80.5).

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

land	1 07000-1 0715
and Germany	2 2425-2 2475
ngapore	2 2425-2 2475
ustralia	63-30 1/2c
razil	1 3725-1 3725
riway	8 4700-8 5000
Switzerland	1 0700-10 4200
Switzerland	2 2475-2 2530
Switzerland	2 2475-2 2530
Switzerland	2 230-2 240
Spain	8 8000-8 8100
Switzerland	2 2475-2 2530
Switzerland	1915-1 1925
Switzerland	50-20 30-30
Switzerland	7 8100-7 8200
Switzerland	7 75-0 175
Switzerland	160-70-170
Switzerland	20 15-20

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FINANCIAL SERVICES

Preparing for the return of JMB

By Michael Prest and Peter Wilson-Smith

When the Bank of England took charge of Johnson Matthey Bankers, its priority was to restore some semblance of order and stability. The immediate tasks were to preserve the sound parts of the bank; minimize losses on bad loans; and in the longer term to prepare JMB for sale back to the private sector.

A good deal has been achieved. The loan book has been cut by nearly £100 million to £400 million - which is probably worth £220 million after provisions - and the balance sheet has shrunk from about £2 billion to £1.4 billion.

Experienced staff, starting with a new board, have been brought in and management systems gradually built up.

The worst loans and borrowers have been identified, and in some cases better security obtained. It seems that not all the indemnity will be called.

Not the extent of the disorder ruling within JMB when the new management team moved in was such that if it had not happened, no banker would have believed it possible.

The Bank of England had assembled a heavyweight team led by Mr Rodney Galpin, an executive director of the Bank, to undertake the fire-fighting. They included Mr Martin Harper who had retired 12 days before as managing director of Charterhouse Japhet and who had been with Keyser Ullman.

A commodities expert, a former head of the Bank of England's gold and foreign exchange dealing and an experienced merchant bank were among the other new directors.

Mr Patrick Brennan, former finance director at Hambros brought experience of shipping loans, an area in which JMB was heavily exposed.

Despite their years of accumulated banking wisdom and experience the new directors were amazed at what they found. There had been a failure of systems on the banking side.

Staff numbers were inadequate and with the odd exception the bank's officers were naive, lacked proper training and were grossly overworked.

There were multiple computer systems which were both incompatible and inadequate. And it became increasingly clear there were serious gaps in records. Often, standard banking practice of recording conversations with customers had not been followed, which meant it was not always clear what had been agreed with customers.

JMB had about 400 customers with 2,000 accounts of which about 1,500 were in a mess. The chaos on the banking side, which mercifully operated separately from the bullion and treasury operations, meant that customers' accounts were sometimes inaccurate.

Interest was not debited to customers' accounts when it should have been and at one stage £9 million of interest was taken into the profit and loss account when it had not even

The worst loans and borrowers have been identified

been debited to customers' accounts.

The new team at JMB was faced with a huge task in simply halting the deterioration underway. Although the JMB débâcle broke suddenly, Mr Ian Frazer, the former banking director, and his colleagues had not managed to lose the half the loan portfolio overnight. The previous management had not apparently realized it but it was clear that substantial provisions should have been made several years earlier.

Apart from coping with the existing damage the new team

October 1 will be the first anniversary of an event the Bank of England and the City will be in no hurry to celebrate: the revelation that Johnson Matthey Bankers had all but collapsed under the weight of bad debts now put at £220 million. JMB was a newcomer to large scale commercial lending. But it was a long-standing member of the exclusive London gold fixing and its inter-bank borrowings were other banks' assets. After a desperate weekend of meetings, the Bank of England took JMB into public ownership to protect confidence. City banks were called into providing an indemnity worth £150 million. But the clear understanding was that JMB would be returned as soon as possible to the private sector. What has happened at JMB over the past year and how close is it to venturing forth from under the skirts of the Old Lady?

had an urgent task in halting the growth in the loan book which had grown by almost £200 million in the six months before the rescue.

Even at the time of the rescue, some borrowers still had substantial unused loan facilities on which they were in theory entitled to draw.

Problems were compounded by the difficulty of knowing who owed how much, what the terms of the loans were and whether borrowings were properly secured.

Nearly a year later, considerable progress has been made but the job is not finished. JMB has managed to obtain substantial amounts repaid from some borrowers. In one case an exposure to one of the larger borrowers has been reduced from £20 million to £6 million and placed on a properly secured footing. In other cases JMB has asked for and received extra security.

Nigeria, where JMB has a large indirect exposure through the London-based confirming houses to which it lent money, remains one of the most uncertain areas.

The exposure to Nigeria has been cut to about £90 million.

but there is considerable uncertainty over how much is protected by export credit insurance. In many cases technical formalities were not followed and cover from the Export Credits Guarantee Department is likely to prove invalid.

Increasingly, light has been shed on what went wrong at JMB. It is evident for example that heavy lending to businessmen originating from the Sind province of Pakistan - such as Mr Mahmood Sipa - who borrowed £70 million - was a serious misjudgement.

Each ghostly new revelation about the state of the banking business makes the role of both the auditors and banking supervisors appear in an even less flattering light. Also unresolved is the question of whether anybody within the bank was engaged in criminal or corrupt activities.

Since the rescue, sage bankers have been wondering whether incompetence alone could have accounted for such a disaster. The police are still investigating, but so far all that is known to have come to light is serious gaps in the bank's records and vague suspicions and rumours.

Officers of the bank were entertained by customers and there appears to have been little check on this inside the bank.

And nothing has come to light to show that JMB officials benefited financially as a result of over-cosy relationships with customers. One JMB borrower, when asked if he had paid backhanders, is said to have replied: "I did not have to." Over-optimism and incompetence are undisputed.

Nevertheless, in the earliest days of the JMB crisis potential buyers showed interest in the bank. Then as now the lure of the name, the possibility of full membership of the London gold market, and the chance to buy a bank perhaps at a discount to assets were all tempting. In recent weeks a handful of putative purchasers, including five big foreign banks, have knocked at JMB's door.

But the obstacles to a sale are still considerable. For a start, the Bank of England will want to be absolutely sure that JMB

Not every buyer is necessarily interested in the whole bank

is a going concern. Another embarrassment is too horrible to contemplate. That implies being as sure as is practicable about the level of provisions, the board's assessment of its loans, and the quality of the staff and management systems.

Considering the uncertainty about the Nigerian loans, to cite only one example, this will be no mean task. In any event a buyer must contemplate the gloomy prospect of lengthy and expensive litigation against Arthur Young McClelland Moores, JMB's previous ac-

countants and the unknown quantity of a police inquiry over which management has no control.

Not every buyer, moreover, is necessarily interested in the whole bank. While JMB's bullion business is profitable, the advantages of full membership of the London gold market are much less today than a decade ago when the market was smaller and more tightly controlled.

JMB, therefore, has looked at the alternatives of detaching the bullion business or hiving off bad debts into a separate company to make the rest of the operation more attractive.

These uncertainties suggest that selling JMB, either in whole or in part, could take longer than was originally envisaged. Still, there is no reason to think that JMB is destined to suffer the same fate as that famous rescue of a decade ago, Slater Walker, which is still listed as a Bank of England subsidiary.

But whenever and however JMB returns to private ownership, the longer term questions will remain. It is clear in retrospect not always an unfair vantage point - that more should have been known earlier about JMB's desperate condition.

Several new measures including plans for fresh banking legislation, tighter reporting requirements and beefing up the Bank of England's supervisory department have subsequently been drawn up.

The authorities hope they will not be tested by the likes of JMB again. But the doubts persist. A sense of unreality still surrounds the episode, a sense that somehow the question of why it happened has not been fully answered. Was it incompetence and the remarkable optimism of the former JMB directors? Or will the continuing inquiries and forthcoming litigation reveal more?

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APPOINTMENTS

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Edwards of Enfield Mr Colin Mason has been made managing director.

George Wimpey: Mr I L Connell has been appointed chairman and chief executive of Wimpey Process Engineering and Offshore Group. He is succeeded as managing director of Wimpey Engineering by Mr M J Wood.

British Railways Board: Mr Ross Furby has become director, passenger marketing services.

Reed Publishing: Mr Donald Anderson has become chairman of Morgan Communications he is succeeded as managing director of Business Press International's Agriculture and Construction Press division by Mr Tony Tillin.

Prime Computer (UK): Mr David Prior has been appointed marketing director after the promotion of Mr George Kendall to managing director of Prime's Hong Kong subsidiary.

Greenham Sand and Ballast: Mr Stephen Wakerly becomes managing director.

Midland Bank: Mr John Thackway has been appointed group personnel director.

Standard Chartered Merchant Bank Asia: Mr Ng Eng Leung has been made managing director.

Michael Page City: Mr Jonathan Williams has been named as a director.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT from Pegasus Software Ltd.

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September 17, 1985

SPECIAL REPORT

THE M25

Running a ring round London

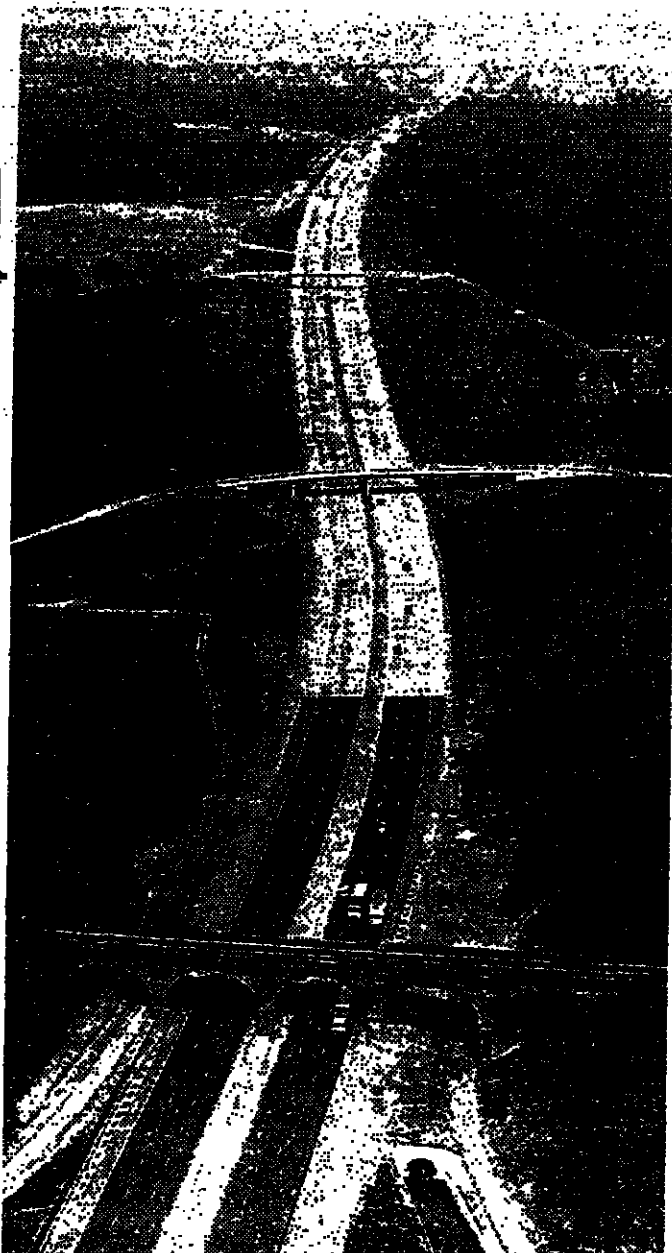
Another key section of London's M25 orbital motorway will be opened tomorrow by Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport. The 11-mile section, costing £80 million, links the M40 London-to-Oxford motorway at Denham with the Poyle interchange south-west of Heathrow Airport, providing a continuous run from Watford to Wisley in the south-west

The M25 is the one that got away. It is the London motorway ring that survived when the other great ring roads in and around the capital were abandoned. While political attention focused on the "motorway box", the orbital motorway was given quiet approval, and while the anti-roads movement spent its fury on the roads plan for London the line of the M25 attracted only limited discord. The grand plans of the 1960s for relieving traffic congestion are now barely remembered. The M25 is nearly complete. The idea for a giant by-pass of the capital was always part and parcel of schemes for modernizing London's traffic plan. The first suggestions were made before the First World War, in the early days of the garden-city movement. They lodged in Whitehall's collective

memory and a sequence of major reports on planning for the capital's region in the 1920s and 1930s gave prominence to the idea of an orbital road, notably to the north of London.

The Ministry of Transport in 1936, projecting a 120ft wide carriageway ("to allow vehicles to be driven at full speed for long stretches"), said: "The road will afford rapid transit from west to east and from north to south by avoiding London and the congested bypasses." It would do this by running from Colnbrook near the modern M4 junction through Hatfield and Hoddeston and Brentwood to the Thames at Tilbury.

The pre-war North Orbital was never built, but in contemporary thinking about the route, two strands emerged that have never since disappeared. One was that an orbital road



Maple Cross, Hertfordshire, above, which opened earlier this year is the section adjoining the stage that opens tomorrow

intersecting the main radial routes into the capital would never be a mere bypass, it would be a road with positive, almost entrepreneurial functions, creating as much as serving economic change. The second, which some might say has been observed only in the breach, is that because the road would cross green-field sites, it would be likely to bring demands for development in its train and so would present town and country planners with an opportunity to plan where consequent growth should occur.

The M25 in other words was never to be a mere highway; it has always been conceived as an economic causeway, a road capable of shifting the balance of development in the south-east region.

This is how the road appeared in the great wartime plan for London and its region prepared by Sir Patrick Abercrombie. His plan projected a

'Profound shift

of mood among thinking people'

series of ring roads, concentric circles flowing outwards from London's centre, functioning to divide living areas from working areas, assisting the dispersal of people from an overcrowded city and freeing the flow of traffic.

To the rings he gave letters - an A ring serving as a bypass for the West End, the C ring consisting of the recently completed North Circular Road, a D ring draining traffic from the London suburbs and finally the E ring, the orbital highway around London imagined by the pre-war planners running like a park way through

largely because the road's plan became entangled with a new kind of community politics which itself temporarily captured one of the major political parties and secured, in the 1973 GLC elections, the defeat of the pro-roads party, the Conservatives. But there was in addition, he says, a "profound shift of mood among thinking people", and that shift went against road building.

Strangely, the M25 went through its early stages of approval in complete isolation from the London battles - and this despite the overlap between the Ministry's route and sections of the GLC's "D" ring road, notably in south-east London. Barbara Castle, minister of transport, announced the line of the South Orbital road in 1966 from Egham to Sevenoaks - at precisely the same time as her husband Ted, a Labour member of the GLC, was starting to campaign against roads in London.

Of course the M25's development was not free of vicissitudes: the major protests against its line in Essex and Surrey were obviously influenced by the change in mood registered during the London affair; the orchestration of protesters at Hornchurch town hall by John Time gave a personal stamp to the indivisibility of the anti

roads opposition. And yet it is the absence of concerted protest that has been the striking fact about the M25's construction.

After the 1966 announcement, the Ministry of Transport gradually announced proposals for its sections. The road's greatest test came in 1974 when Harold Wilson's government took office, but thanks in part to bureaucratic inertia, in part to the general realization of the road's necessity, a perfect political consensus was preserved. When in 1975 Anthony Crosland, Labour's Secretary of State for the Environment

'Major questions

were prevented

by local inquiries'

announced the formal despatch of London's three urban ringways, he also announced further plans for joining up the segments of the M25.

Some people might argue that the very gradual nature of the M25's construction shows just how beholden governments were in the 1970s to the new mood. Both Tory and Labour governments did indeed opt for time consuming separate inquiries on sections of the road and allowed themselves to be

reprimanded by the Leitch Committee in the mid 1970s for not being responsive enough to the need for public participation. But the tactic worked. What might have been a very controversial road built through the heart of green belt - and likely to promote extensive green belt development in the future - instead became a series of disconnected inquiries some heated, others mild, all of them eventually producing approvals.

The procedures brought to fame Ms Lesley Lovelock, the battling secretary of Romford. It highlighted the alleged attractions of the Darenth valley - "Samuel Palmer country" - and probably brought more visitors and noise than if the motorway had gone through unimpeded. The "M25 Coordinating Group" tried in 1978 to secure a single public inquiry into the road.

In fact the holding of 26 or so local inquiries, section by section, prevented major questions being asked: what is the M25's function after 20 years? The answer is multiple. The road will serve its original 1930s purpose of providing a by-pass, notably for road-borne freight travelling from north and west to the south east coast.

It will cut intra-regional journey times, relieve local

bottlenecks. It will also - presumably the least intended consequence from the government's point of view - "open up" large areas of the South East for development, much of it designated as green belt.

The M25 is effectively a road without a plan. It runs through the various "strategic" plans for the counties surrounding London, all of which make efforts to corset and contain development to which the road is likely to give rise. But for its length as a whole there is no plan, especially since the end of the 1970s when large scale planning was rejected as part of the government's philosophy.

The philosophy has not, however, been applied consistently. The counties' structure plans remain in place with their generally tight restriction on development along the line of the motorway.

The Government itself is torn. Patrick Jenkin, the former Secretary of State for the Environment, announced, then withdrew a package that would have had the effect of loosening green belt restrictions. Meanwhile the government has seemed to favour the creation of a number of private enterprise "new towns" in green belt territory with access to the M25. Conservative backbenchers, no least those from the suburban counties, have recently organized themselves into an anti-growth coalition.

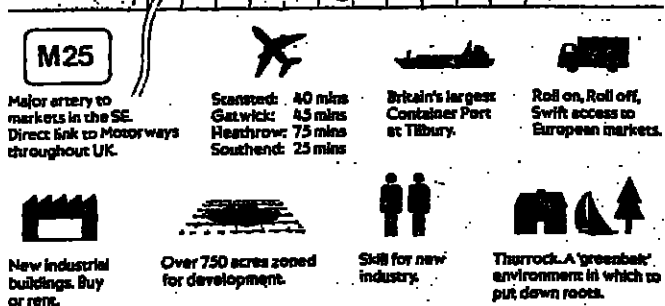
Officially there is no single "plan" for the south-east region (there are instead a series of guidelines administered by the Department of the Environment, the drift of which is to favour development to the north and east of London rather than in the south and west). Planning is a matter primarily for the local authorities, with the Environment Department a backstop for appeals against refusal. With the disappearance of the GLC, the Greater London Development Plan disappears too.

Growth in the south east looks likely to become one of the big political issues of the 1990s. The Conservatives are torn between protecting the "amenity" of suburbanites who are their supporters and promoting economic growth. Labour would prefer the growth to take place elsewhere, in the North or in the inner urban area. The Alliance parties are adopting a "green" stance. Meanwhile the road, built with all party consensus, will continue to function as a stimulant to development.

David Walker

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THE M25/2

SPECIAL REPORT

CNT

"...I DO LIKE A BIT OF ART WITH THE ECONOMICS."

"You know what I think about motorways, Jenkins. Damned shame if they carve up the countryside but absolutely essential to industry and commerce... Couldn't live without 'em. The arteries of the nation, wouldn't you say?"

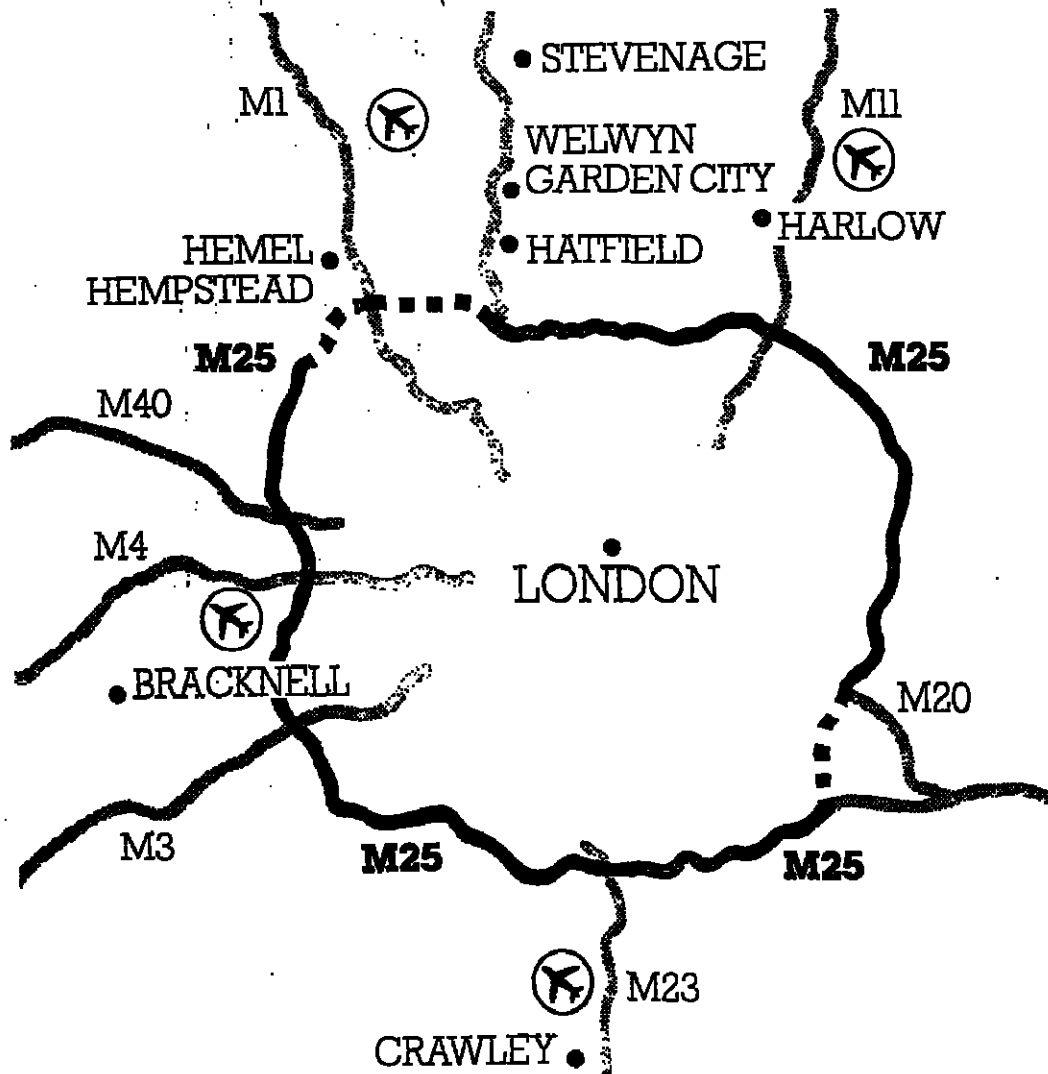
"Indeed sir."

"Trouble is, they're all a bit straight and boring. You know, you get on them and belt up to wherever and do whatever and then race back again. All rather heartless. I'd much sooner get around from place to place with a touch more style. I do like a bit of art with the economics, Jenkins."

"Quite, sir. Have you tried the M25 yet? The London orbital motorway. It's nearly completed and already it seems to be attracting a lot of people just like you, sir. People who care about the finer side of life. Of course, it's also rather useful because it means people working in one of the newly developed towns around the ring can get to a lot of other areas jolly quickly. Including the airports and seaports. As well as onto all the main 'straightline' motorways. I've got this new brochure from the CNT—it seems they've got some rather interesting industrial and office sites for sale in seven different towns around London. North, south, east and west. And they're all near the M25, sir."

"Don't stand there blathering, Jenkins. Pass me the map..."

"The CNT Seven—all around the Orbital. For those who like a bit of art with their economics."



For details of industrial and commercial premises in the CNT's London Seven—ring:
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Rolling out the motorway

The best of British engineering and building techniques have combined in the construction of the M25: from the highly skilled bridge-builders who spanned the countryside at Epping in 1982 to the men who literally rolled out the road at Passingford Bridge, Essex, by laying reels of glass fibre before the surface was laid. Now motorists roll along this stretch at a regulation 70mph. And, when the most northerly section is completed next year, commuters and juggernauts alike will be able to drive rings round London.

How house prices have soared...

A house sold for £62,300 in Chertsey, Surrey, 18 months ago, has recently been resold for £82,000. At Merrow Park, Guildford, a £78,000 new house changed hands for £102,000 two years later, and semi-detached houses on a development at Addlestone, near Weybridge, increased in price from £45-47,000 to £63-65,000 within a year.

These increases were dramatically above the average house price rises during the period because they benefited from their proximity to motorways—the M25, in particular, and the M3.

In many cases it is a matter of luck whether a motorway comes past your house within a few hundred feet, which could blight it, or whether it is easily accessible. In which case it can add up to 25 per cent—sometimes more—to its value.

Motorways often bring properties in previously less accessible areas into more prominence, which is the effect of the M25 now.

Exact comparisons are difficult, since other factors affect the cost of a house sold at any given time, such as the general state of the market and the effect of any improvement work done, but there is no doubt in estate agents' minds that individual properties and whole areas show the benefits of a location near a motorway.

Last year, Savills sold New Barns, a Grade II Georgian house at West Malling, Kent, close to the M20 and M25, for around £500,000, and the agents reckoned the price reflected an addition of about 15 per cent for the motorway factor. Within months it was on the market again—at a higher price.

It is not just the M25, but its links with other motorways in the system, which open up further areas. When the M11 was completed, Savills' Chelmsford office noted a "fairly dramatic" effect on prices. An

old vicarage north of Bishops Cleeve jumped in price from £75,000 in 1978 to £161,000 when the motorway was established and now it is worth more than £200,000.

A motorway not only takes people more quickly from place to place and allows them to live further from the work, for example, but also takes traffic from the other roads, with the result that property on or near them benefit from a quieter environment.

One of the objectives for the M25 was to redress the balance

against the predominance of development to the west of London, and bring it to the east. Essex has certainly been changing. Before the motorway, the property market was almost entirely dictated by moves of people within the area. Now agents notice people coming to live in Essex from outside the area—though Americans, Arabs and other international buyers wish to be nearer Heathrow or Gatwick.

Essex is also the scene of a battle for a new country town development. Consortium De-

velopments want to build a town of 5,000 dwellings on 760 acres of Green Belt at Tillingham Hall, Thurrock. It is the first of their projected developments in the south-east and the existence of a nearby motorway link makes such huge schemes all the more viable.

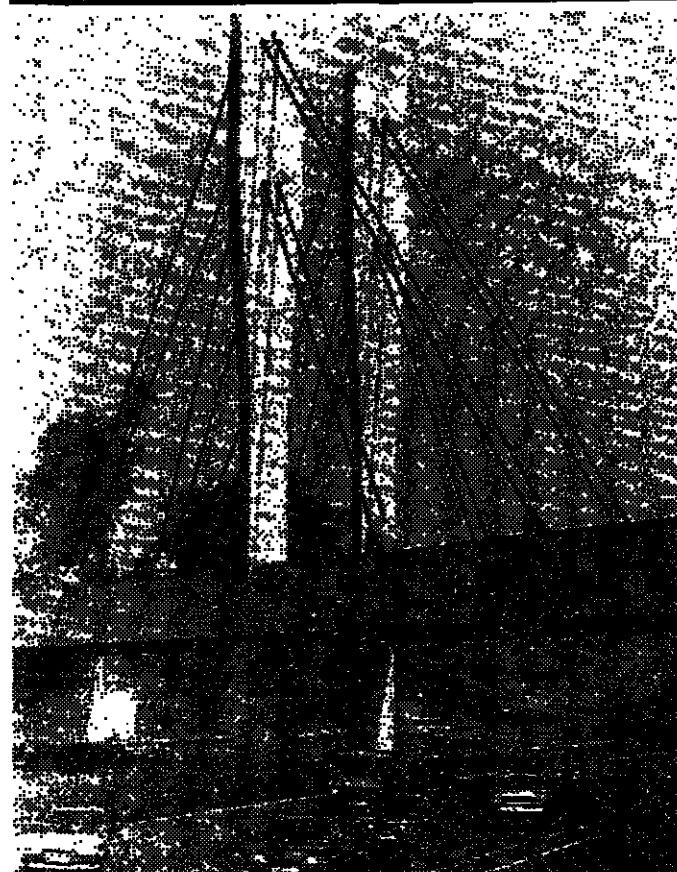
Apart from opposition to the scheme because it is on Green Belt land, it has a rival—a plan for a new town of similar size on reclaimed chalk pits west of Grays by a consortium headed by Owen Luder, a past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Which ever—if either—is built, the project comes about because suddenly parts of the south-east acquire excellent road communications. The presence of the M25 will also help the absorption of an extra 39,000 houses which it is estimated will be needed in the next 10 years to cater for workers at the expanded Stansted airport, and to reflect the increase in home ownership and growing popularity of the county. The existence of quick communications means that the new developments can be spread over a wider area.

The motorway will therefore benefit the areas to the east, as it was hoped, but there is the ever present demand for property further to the west. Even in Kent, there are indications that people are moving there rather than in the Surrey and Berkshire commuter belts because the motorway allows them—or will when it is completed—to reach both the main international airports in a short, and largely predictable, time.

Estate agents all round the M25 are quick to preface details of properties with a mention of its proximity and benefits, and Hampton and Sons recently offered five houses in the "Surrey M25 corridor".

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent



Sophisticated engineering: British Rail's cantilever bridge at the M25 Chertsey section, between junctions 10 and 12

...and the fierce competition for land

Far-sighted property developers were buying land close to the as yet undecided line of the M25 motorway a decade ago. Those that bought and developed their crystal-ball gazing. Demand for offices, retailing and modern industrial space located in a pleasant environment with easy accessibility has sent land prices, rents and values soaring.

Strong demand allied with a restriction on development (much of the M25 goes through sacrosanct Green Belt) means that industrial land in some areas is selling for £1 million an acre. Land for office development is going for £85 a sq ft. Retailers wanting out-of-town sites in the Green Belt close to the M25 are falling over themselves to pay high prices. Not only are they buying the location they are also buying out the competition rather than allow the opposition to operate along the road.

Office rents have leaped in value

The pattern of development associated with the M25 highlights the two nations phenomenon. But this is not the great divide between north and south which is so evident elsewhere in the property market. This is a split between the east and the west of the motorway ring. Developers have long been putting up space west of London, moving out from Heathrow Airport along the M4 and M3. The M25 is accelerating that process and towns which link it with existing motorways going west are seeing most uplift in demand and prices.

Towns that would not normally have attracted much interest from developers because of poor accessibility are now seeing an upsurge of interest as their attractions become obvious to those developing and investing in property like the pension funds and insurance companies. Watford and Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire are prime examples of this trend. Asda, the superstore group paid a reputedly high sum for part of the former Odhams printing site in Watford, owned by Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communications Corporation.

Office rents in the town have zoomed from £7 a sq ft five years ago to £12 a sq ft now, showing 11 per cent annual growth. It, like other locations opened up by the M25, is catching up with areas like Slough, Berkshire, traditionally high-growth locations. Office rents in Slough are now £16 a sq ft but have only shown 5 per cent annual growth since 1980. Industrial land is no slaggard in Hertfordshire either. Legal & General Assurance recently paid nearly £9 million for the freehold of Kodak's 12.5 acre site at Hemel Hempstead. The fund intends developing so called hi-tech space on the land, a form of development which is attracting very high rents, halfway between office and industrial rents.

A storm of protest from local residents has been created by plans to develop a 90-acre site at Bricket Wood near St Albans, at the meeting point of the M25 and M1 motorways. Town & City Properties, part of the P & O Group, the shipping concern,

wants to build a business park, retailing, leisure facilities and an hotel on the site which is in the Green Belt.

It is jointly owned by the Department of Transport and a private trust. The developer is only too well aware that its plan is controversial and that a public inquiry is on the cards. The Council for the Protection of Rural England regards Town & City's proposals as a test case for the future of the Green Belt.

Meanwhile Town & City is also involved in plans for a £100 million, 1 million sq ft out-of-town retail and leisure scheme at Thurrock, Essex, west of the M25. Essex is seeing demand for retailing but has so far been slow to take off in the industrial and office field. Town & City has a rival at Thurrock in the shape of Capital and Counties, the retail developer. Capital and Counties wants to build a similar size project just

US companies are looking for space

along the road from Town & City's site on land owned by the Pearson Group, which owns the Financial Times. Neither is in the Green Belt but there will only be room for one of the two schemes and it is likely that the decision will be made by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

The demand for offices and a mix of offices allied with production space is largely to be seen west of London but is spreading around the M25 north and south. Small market towns are seeing offices of 20,000 sq ft or under going up. Rents in places like Reigate and

Woking, Surrey and Maidstone, Kent have seen rents grow by 11.5 per cent, 13 per cent and 10 per cent a year. Woking office rents have gone from £6.50 a sq ft in 1980 to £12 a sq ft this year.

Outside the town centres, there is growing pressure to build what are virtually commercial new towns. The growth industries in the electronics field are in the forefront of demand wanting low density, highly-landscaped environments which allow for a large amount of car parking. Business parks are a growing phenomenon near the M25. One of the largest planned is close to Heathrow Airport. Stockley, a property company, is building a 340-acre business park with £75 million of funding from the Universities Superannuation Scheme for the first phase.

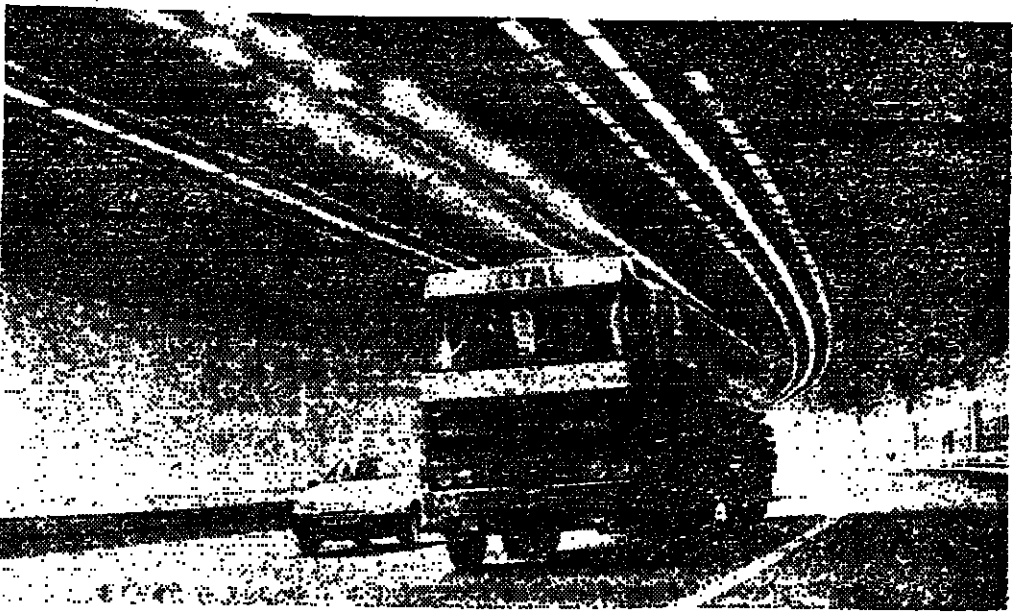
US companies in computing and electronics have been to the forefront in wanting space in such schemes but now pundits in the property world are forecasting that the financial services sector, such as insurance, broking and banking, will soon be competing as top space takers. A novel situation. Both employ a highly-trained workforce which wants to travel to work by car. It is only out-of-town centres that can offer these kind of large scale facilities. The M25 is making the pressure for development in the south-east's green and pleasant land intense.

But it is the planners who will have the last say as to whether the Green Belt can be breached.

Judith Huntley
Commercial Property
Correspondent

SPECIAL REPORT

THE M25/3



Well-lit tunnels take the M25 under at least one beauty spot

Ingenious engineering

When the North Circular Road was opened in 1934, the public was full of praise for the feat of civil engineering on the Harrow Road to Hanger Lane section that allowed the temporary diversion of the Grand Union Canal while the road was built under it.

The contractors ran the risk of 12 miles of canal water flooding a tract of north-west London. But that feat pales a little in modern perspective. On a single stretch of the M25, from Thorney on the M4 to Iwer Heath and the M40 junction, the motorway goes over and under some 17 bridges carrying other roads, the main line of the British Rail route west and . . . the Grand Union Canal.

Despite its scale the construction of the M25 has excited little public attention apart from recent reports of carriageway cracking. Yet the road in its entirety contains a number of ingenious civil engineering features and, in sections, represents a triumph for the speed and quality of the volume contractors.

Few are not represented somewhere along the line of the M25: if nothing else, the road will be a permanent exhibition of the work of Laing, Tarmac, Wimpey and the other firms.

To take one example, Wimpey began work on the Thorney to Iwer Heath section of the road in April 1983 and completed its work, on time, 28 months later, putting down 190,000 tonnes of black top in between. Some £10 million of the £25 million contract was for 15 bridges, two culverts and four steel signalling gantries; though the road has been built with three lanes on each carriageway, the bridges have been designed to accommodate four lanes, allowing the possibility of road widening in future.

Contractors have been allowed a degree of discretion in their methods and there is considerable variation in the road-surfacing. The section from Tilling End, near the M40 interchange, to Maple Cross by Rickmansworth for which the main contractor was John Laing has a concrete surface. Overall supervision and final assessment of the quality of construction has rested with the Department of Transport's consulting engineers, Sir William Halcrow and partners.

DW

Dartford's dilemma

Three months ago the Department of Transport announced that its 1985 roads programme included an engineering study into additional capacity for the M25 at the Dartford Tunnel. For motorists, traffic planners and for the not altogether amicable counties of Kent and Essex, this expression of the Government's interest comes none too soon.

For several years, the capacity of the Dartford Tunnel has been viewed by many as one of the weakest links in the M25 system, a view strengthened by projections of M25 traffic into the 1990s, which show a deficiency in the tunnel's capacity of at least 20,000 vehicles a day by early 1994.

The Dartford Tunnels (actually a twin bore) are owned and operated jointly by Kent and Essex which charge a 60p vehicle toll as required by the Treasury to recoup their investment. Over 20 years, traffic using the tunnel has risen from 14,000 vehicles a day to 54,000.

The Government has resisted suggestions that it ought to undertake the construction of a third bore (at an estimated cost of £60 million), putting its faith instead on the effects on Dartford traffic of the opening of a suspension bridge across the Thames, due to be built between Barking and Erith. But the counties' joint tunnel committee say this bridge will bring only temporary relief.

How the route grounded a helicopter service

In a little-noticed decision a year ago the Under Secretary of State for Transport, Mr David Mitchell, did something not altogether in keeping with the Government's general philosophy of liberalizing travel competition.

He summarily revoked, only a year after it had been extended by the Civil Aviation Authority, the licence allowing a helicopter service between Heathrow and Gatwick airports. The service, operated by British Airways, British Caledonian and the British Airports Authority handles about 80,000 passengers.

The reason, Mr Mitchell said, was "environmental disturbance", to the inhabitants of Surrey and Sussex. Their salvation was owed to the M25.

Once the motorway was complete, Mr Mitchell told the House of Commons, there would be no need for helicopters to fly between the two airports. Four months after the motorway link between Heathrow and Gatwick was completed, the helicopter service was to cease.

Here was another unintended consequence of the motorway. Coach service between Heathrow and Gatwick was projected to take 30 minutes, compared with the 15-minute helicopter flight - a margin sufficient in the Government's eyes to ban what British Airways calls an essential transfer for many passengers.

But that is only one example of the potential impact of the new motorway on London's airports. On Luton, London's third airport in all but name, the impact will be major, its director told a recent symposium.

For Luton, like Stansted, Heathrow and Gatwick will for the first time be drawn into a single "travel-to-fly" area. From many points in the south-east region, the road journey to any of the airports via the M25 will be only marginally different, a fact that will make the airports more competitive.

The British Airports Authority view (on behalf of Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted) is that the M25 will certainly increase competition but in the end it would be the airport offering the best range of flights and services - Heathrow, it says - which would benefit.

Luton, connected by dual carriageway to the M1, expects the M25 to lift its annual passenger tally from around 1.7 million to more than 2 million by 1987.

Stansted, just off the M11 motorway, was recently given the government approval for "modest" expansion. Like Luton its relative distance from the centre of London may now be counter-balanced by ease of access to the airport from Surrey, Kent and Buckinghamshire by means of the M25.



The M25 at the Mar Dyke viaduct in Essex provides trouble-free motoring

The battle is on to loosen the Green Belt

Confronting the growth potential of the M25 are a dozen or so county council "structure plans" to restrict development in the south-east.

These are essentially political documents - the local politicians' judgment about how much "amenity" there should be for local inhabitants and how much freedom there should be for the market forces of development to operate. There is always a danger that the national interest, the interest of people outside the local area, falls between the cracks.

The structure plans have in the past been reviewed by the Department of the Environment. What is left in many cases is a rather confusing picture with some counties, such as Surrey, set against most kinds of development and some, such as Buckinghamshire, trying to direct house builders and industrialists to where the county would like development to take place, and some, such as Essex and Kent, taking a decidedly more liberal view on where house building and industrial development should be allowed.

A recent analysis of structure plans in the south-east by consultants Coopers and Lybrand Associates found they were unsatisfactory in several ways. "In some the presentation of the analysis and argumentation was far from clear. There sometimes seemed to be lack of clear thinking by the authors."

Ambiguities about planning in the south-east are not entirely the fault of the counties. Coopers and Lybrand found "the regional guidance provided by the Government has become increasingly less precise, indeed some authorities consider it now contains inherent conflicts."

"Without clear guidance it is difficult for authorities to know the extent of the regional role they might be expected to play and in particular the degree of net in-migration from other areas for which they might be expected to cater."

The Government has no general framework for the south-east but it does endorse policies with a regional impact. One is the designation of areas of "outstanding natural beauty" with its consequent restriction on house development. The stimulating effect of the M25 in Surrey and parts of Kent is likely directly to clash with this policy.

Another general planning policy which appears still to have the Government's support is the Green Belt. So far, despite agitation from the conservationists, there has been little change in government thinking.

Western counties are robust in its defence

Counties to the west of London have tended to be robust in their defence of Green Belt land as an inviolable constraint on development, and they have had government backing.

The Government seems to favour some Green Belt development in counties to the east of London, in Essex and Kent. Some encouragement has been given by the Environment Department to promoters of the private "new towns", notably in Essex. So far, however, the Government has given no clear view on how much M25-derived growth it expects the suburban counties to accommodate.



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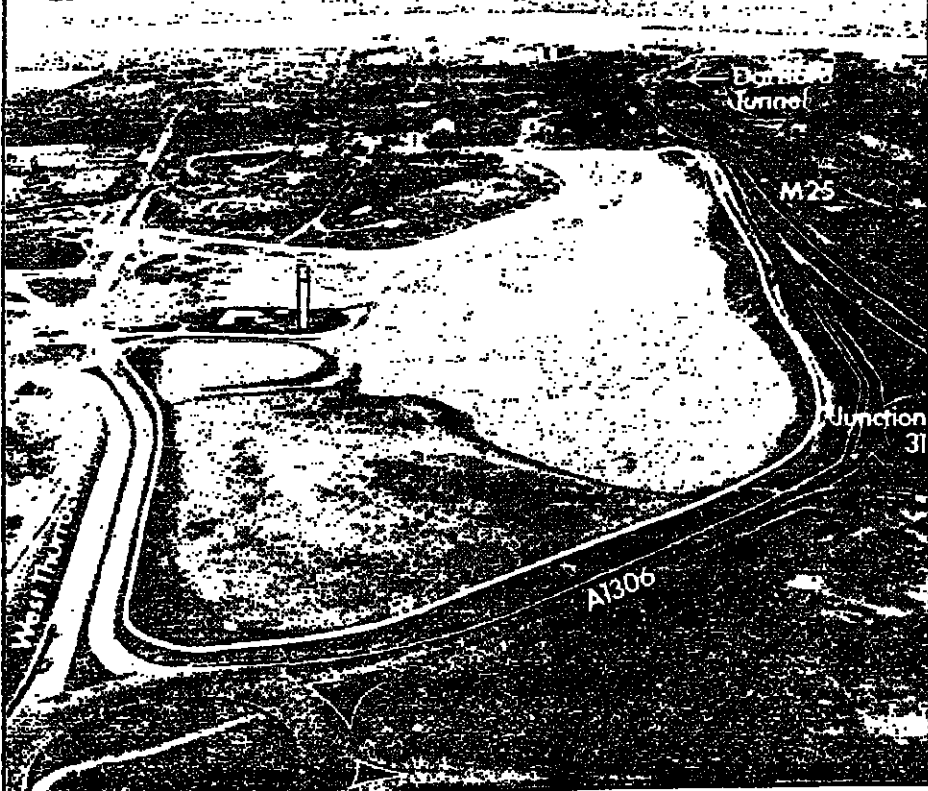
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General: Outstanding opportunity to become involved in the latest areas of technology in a position which has in-built career growth. Ref TS362

PROGRAMMERS / SNR PROGRAMMERS

C London, £8-15K

ANY COBOL

Company: One of the largest and most successful computer services companies - dealing with all hardware groups and commercial business application areas, staffed with competent and dynamic professionals.
Position: Programmers and Senior Programmers to work on major projects playing an integral part in a small team working from inception to implementation. Analysis involvement will be limited to experience and the desire to progress.

Experience: Programming - 3 mths-2yrs Cobol experience, gained on mainframe equipment. Preference will be given to candidates with ICL or IBM backgrounds. However, any machine experience will be carefully considered. Snr. Prog. - 3yrs plus with the emphasis being heavier on ICL & IBM experience.

General: These opportunities must be carefully considered by candidates with hardware/applications experience limited to one or even two users, as in the past this type of person has benefited considerably. Work includes involvement on both client site and in house, and because of the variety of hardware employed and the scope of applications, can lead to fast promotion, higher salaries and a certain prosperous future. Ref TF230

CONSULTANTS

West & Central £12-20K

Company: Software Consultancy part of a National Corporation offering stability and a good career path to Junior Consultants & Consultants.
Position: General Consulting including pre/post sales support & training. The products are totally portable and the job will involve developing financial models based on the company's existing software.

Experience: Smart and efficient with experience in Financial/Accounting/Decision support systems, probably having come from a programming background. There are positions available at all levels especially at the senior/mid range with approx. 3-4 yrs. Accountants with DP experience may be suitable.

General: Well established firm working around all types of hardware. Candidates need to be flexible and customer aware. Support Analysts will be seriously considered. Ref TV346

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SNR. SYSTEMS ANALYST

Central

To £25,000

Company: Major north American banking corporation breaking new ground in the areas of investment banking and broking technology.
Position: System analyst to undertake feasibility, analysis, design and staff supervision of a major real-time settlements, investments banking system based on a DEC VAX network.

Experience: Strong analysis and design gained in a financial environment. Knowledge of real-time transaction processing in broking or investment banking. The ability to deputise for project manager essential.
General: A chance to be part of an initial 3 year development cycle leading to various new projects in the areas of investment banking. Ref TS362

ANALYST PROGRAMMERS

London £10-22K

JUNIOR MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT TO CONSULTANT

Company: One of the world's foremost organisations dedicated to special-ised application areas & services.

Position: From Analyst Programmers to Consultants to assist in expanding the activities of the hi-technology group. Applicants should demonstrate a high level of academic achievement, with proven practical experience.

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General: Candidates, preferably graduates, will be given every opportunity to progress quickly in a stimulating and challenging environment. Salaries competitive & unlikely to present a problem. Ref TM1227

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£8,000-£15,000

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Why no action on Data Act?

It was gratifying to read the bullish predictions of a comprehensive survey on personal computer usage in British offices. The study, published last week, predicted that three million such systems will be installed by the end of the decade and that this could benefit the British microcomputer market by £3,000 million a year.

The findings, compiled by Wharton Information Systems, a Richmond-based computer consultancy, were a surprise to most who believed that the UK was still sluggish in its acceptance of automated office electronics. Britain had - with much publicity - devoted an industrial campaign in 1982 to raising British executives' awareness of information technology (IT) and of the equipment which would help them harness it. By the end of the year executives were indeed aware - but not much more. Last week's findings seem to indicate that the awareness has been translated into action.

According to the study, 140,000 personal computers were installed in offices last year, bringing the total in Britain to 250,000. That figure is expected to double this year. Those sales represent £600 million worth of hardware and related equipment. By the time software and maintenance lists were added, the total was more than £1,000 million.

The boom will continue, says the study. By 1990 more than £2,000 million will be spent on these microcomputers each year and software, maintenance and other services will add another £1,000 million. As expected, IBM is leading the field with 34 per cent of the unit sales, ACT second with 26 per cent and Olivetti following. Other competitors this year will be Digital, Wang, Compaq and Hewlett-Packard.

The boom, however, is disturbing

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

because it is becoming increasingly obvious to many in the computer industry that the users of these microcomputer systems are blissfully unaware that they could be criminals next year if they have failed to comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act.

The Act, which will come into force by the spring, requires those systems that contain personal data to be registered with the Data Protection Registrar. Every system and its purpose is to be registered to protect individuals from the misuse of

sensitive personal data and to give them the right of access to such files to ensure that the data is correct.

The Wharton study made a disturbing conclusion in this context. It found in its study that 80 per cent of all these personal computers were shared. The security of personal data, which is a fundamental requirement under the new data protection legislation, could prove virtually impossible in these circumstances.

The Wharton researchers had concluded: "All the personal computers in the survey were used by executives, at least part of the time. Often the use was shared with a secretary, and it was the latter use which is growing fastest."

The survey had also shown that word processing was the fastest growing area of application. Such applications would include correspondence, reports and memos - all liable to contain personal data that could require users to comply with the Act.

The Richmond study and its conclusions were timely because a study by another consultancy, Ernst & Whinney, showed that about half of the 150 companies which took part had no plans to meet the Act's requirements. Half were unaware that registration begins on November 11. That level of ignorance was the most frightening conclusion.

To market with an all-woman team

By Maggie McLening

Three days after becoming managing director of her company, Ann-Marie Gwynn found she was pregnant. Undaunted, she went on to become vice president of Yourdon Europe and now she is launching a marketing offensive with an all-woman team.

Yourdon Europe is a consultancy and training company built around software-design techniques developed by its founder, Ed Yourdon, in the 1970s. Training forms 70 per cent of business, books and consultancy services making up the remainder. About 1,500 people complete courses every year.

Turnover is on target to exceed £1 million by the end of the year. Half comes from the UK and half from Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. Mrs Gwynn intends to raise the European contribution to 75 per cent over the next two years by adding West Germany and France to the list and expanding in the Netherlands. So she is investing £90,000 in advertising and in supporting her newly

6 The coding is so simple a gorilla could handle it

appointed all-women European sales and marketing team.

She says: "Most of our sales people are men but the management team just happens to be women. Women tend to work harder, perhaps because they think they have something to prove. They are also happy to delegate, and that is the art of management. They are much better doers than thinkers."

"You can get a lot done by doing, and there are a awful lot of men sitting on their bottom, just thinking, or wasting their time in meetings. However, we do not discriminate positively in favour of women, and they don't make up more than 50 per cent of the company."

Mrs Gwynn was headhunted from Control Data's training division in 1981 to set up the UK arm of Yourdon, which now has a US turnover of \$11 million.



Ann-Marie Gwynn: 'Women tend to work harder, perhaps they think they have something to prove'

Mrs Gwynn says: "I joined Yourdon because it was a gamble and a challenge."

Yourdon developed "structured" design and analysis methods in the mid-1970s. Despite subsequent innovations, Mrs Gwynn maintains that the techniques still hold good.

She says: "Writing a computer system is like building a house, with an analyst the equivalent of the architect. We believe using an engineering discipline for developing software, so that Yourdon diagrams and notation are like the architect's house plan - the coding at the end should be so simple gorillas could do it."

"Moves towards distributed processing have not changed structured techniques - design

Keyboard way to take the cake

By Claire Gooding

Walk into a *pâtisserie* in France and you are likely to find a terminal among the mouth-watering goodies displayed on the counter. The Intergateaux service is a computerized version of Interflora, encouraging the French to say it with cakes rather than flowers.

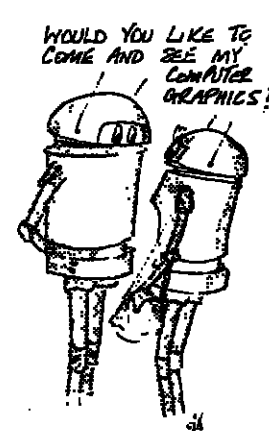
So, when Jean-Pierre in Lyons wants to send a birthday surprise to sweet-toothed Tante Clothilde in Lille, he has only to stroll into his local *pâtisserie* and consult the Minitel terminal. This is connected to a database of "approved *pâtisseries*", storing details of their location, opening hours, specialities and prices.

The Minitel terminals are supplied by the French Post and Telecommunications, PTT. The service works across the whole of France, courtesy of the PTT and a Bull DPS4 computer.

Customers can choose not only the size and sort of *gâteau* but the flavour, the colouring, and an accompanying message.

Intergateaux is also encouraging the public to send chocolates, liqueurs, alcohol, confectionery, wines, sweets and ice-creams.

The service is not available outside the domain of the French PTT. Perhaps British Telecom should try for a slice of the cake.



ASIS

● Computer Horizons continues on Pages 25, 26

Apricot polishers launch their own portable

By Geoffrey Ellis

Despite the slow market in portable computers, a small Welsh company has launched a paper-back-size machine for use in unfriendly environments, in a bid to capture a slice of the highly competitive vertical markets.

Microscribe, part of the Sector Group design consultancy, was responsible for the design of the much-praised Apricot computer, and has, since its start three years ago, been producing a small range of portables, giving the user a simplified machine, allowing a "switch on and go" word-processing operation.

The new machine, the Model 100, is an extension of the earlier "range" running under P/M. It has 128K of RAM and a ROM interpreter of 64K. The screen display, which has a good degree of flexibility, multi-line, has a display of eight lines of 40 characters, and can be windowed, to allow a full 80 column display.

The "Basic" is an extended version of the Locobasic Basic, which is used by the Amstrad computers, and is not important. It carries a built-in single-speed (300 baud) modem, which will allow access to most



Apricot's Model 100: 128K of RAM, a ROM interpreter of 64K and good screen legibility

company mainframes and databases, a vital link if the machine is to attack the data capture market successfully.

The casing is made from expanded aluminium which, apart from giving protection, also allows production flexibility for customizing. It is possible to incorporate any extras, such as printer or recorder, within the extended casing, without a prolonged redesign job.

BT approval is still awaited for the model, but the machine, which is fully configured form, and with specific applications packages available from independent software houses, should be available at about £800 from October.

How home micro makers are digging for old gold

By Geof Wheelwright

The home-computer industry is borrowing from the business-computer technology of two and three years ago in a desperate attempt to rescue itself.

The "latest" serious home micro from Amstrad, for example, is the PCW 8256, a machine which uses a variation of the aging CP/M business operating system (a program for controlling the computer's disc drives, screen, keyboard and printer, and the perennial Z-80 processor chip).

Both CP/M and the Z-80 chip had such to do with the success of the Apple II in business computer markets back in 1982 - before IBM and all its lookalikes cut a swath across the business micro industry - and it is ironic to see the same combination appearing on a computer produced by a company which has done much the same thing to the UK home micro industry as IBM did to the US business micro industry.

Commodore, too, is making use of the CP/M operating system in its C-128 home computer, although it can claim the added advantage of retaining the ability to run all the popular games software and add-ons developed for the Commodore 64.

The Amstrad offering cannot use games developed for any of the other Amstrad home computers. And both Commodore and Amstrad are in this case relying on three-year-old business computer technology to gain them a better place in the continually competitive home-computer market.

Both claim that the technology is not really old but rather proven, reliable and largely bug-free.

To look at the new offerings from Atari and the Japanese MSX consortium do not immediately suggest they could be open to claims of having salvaged yesterday's business ideas and put them in home computer boxes. But in many ways they, too, can be accused of cannibalising the desk tops of 1982 and 1983.

The Atari ST computer uses the same processor and many of the same concepts that went into launching the Apple Lisa business computer in January 1983 (and the more popular Macintosh the following year), while the MSX computers use the same Z-80 processor family installed in many CP/M-based business computers of the early 1980s.

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Please apply to Andrew Faulkner, Technical Director.

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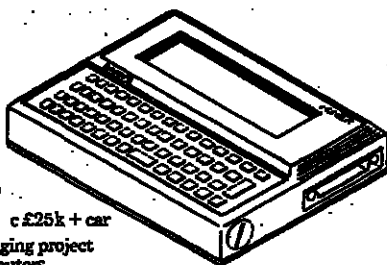
Please apply to Eric Brown, Senior Project Manager.

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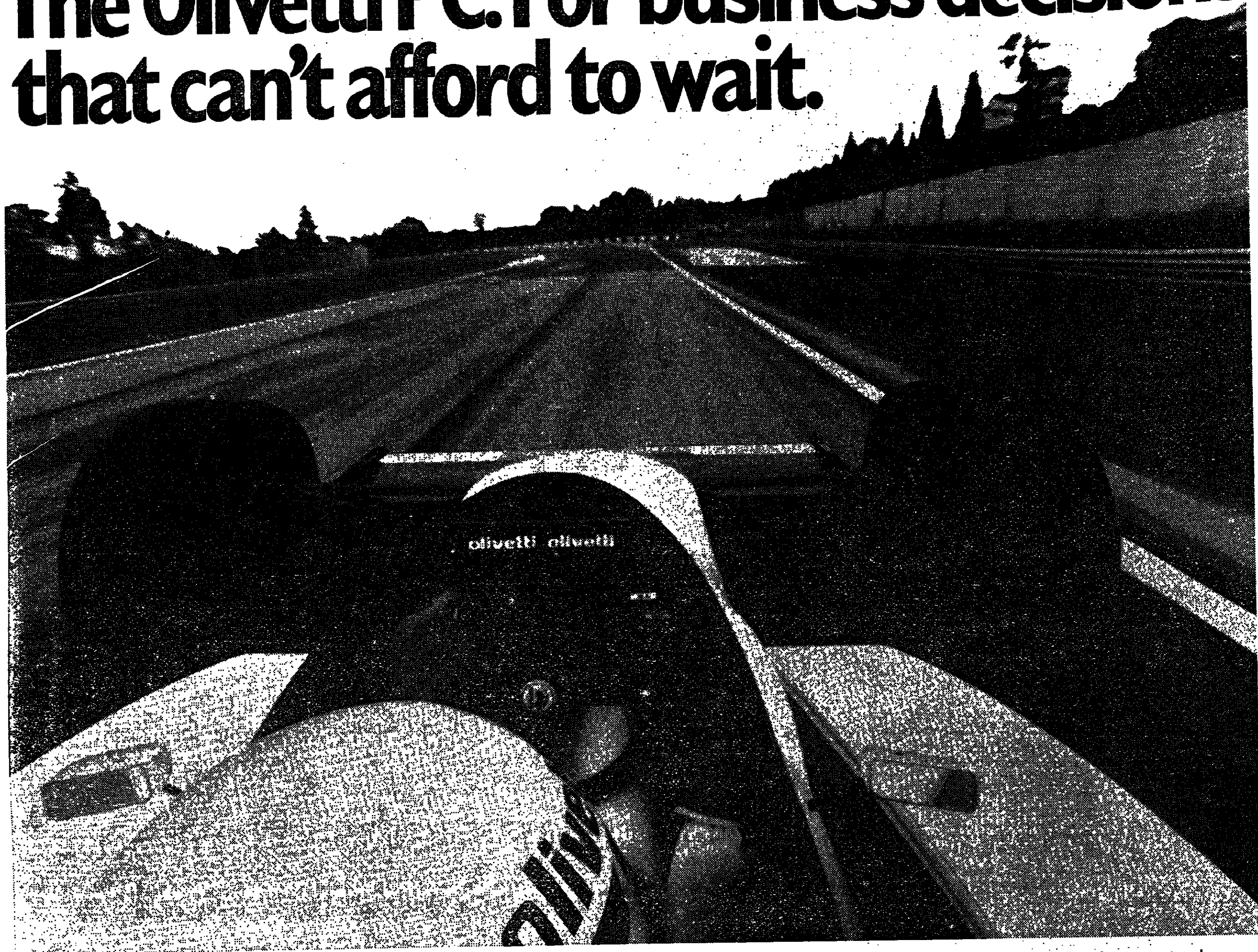
Please apply to John Battersby, Software Manager.

To qualify for the above positions you would be likely to have a suitable degree in a related discipline, have a bright outgoing personality and be capable of working in small teams where self-motivation is essential. Help with relocation costs is available where appropriate.



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central processor is almost twice as fast as its rival's. So it can handle the same tasks in half the time. Saving you a lot of boredom and frazzled nerves.

The speed and power of the M24 made it a natural choice to handle the timing data in Formula 1 racing. Cars cross the timing beam at around 200mph. Yet three standard M24s, checking each other, can sort out speeds and positions, display the figures on trackside monitors and the broadcast TV screen - before the racers reach the next bend. If they can do that, they can whizz through accounts or shoot out memos just as fast - working as hard through the office day as they do in a two-hour race.

Formula 1 has also proved that the M24 is as tough and reliable as an office computer can be. Their machines are

flown round the world, and set up and started in all climates and conditions. The results they show have to be trusted by fifteen racing teams, a thousand journalists and millions of TV viewers. But for Olivetti, reliability is almost a religion. So their computer can easily cope with that kind of responsibility.

So the Olivetti is fast. Tough. Reliable. It has the widest range of software, plus Olivetti's sensible keyboard. It also comes equipped with the clearest high-definition screen of any computer in its category. In every design decision, Olivetti have taken the high-performance option.

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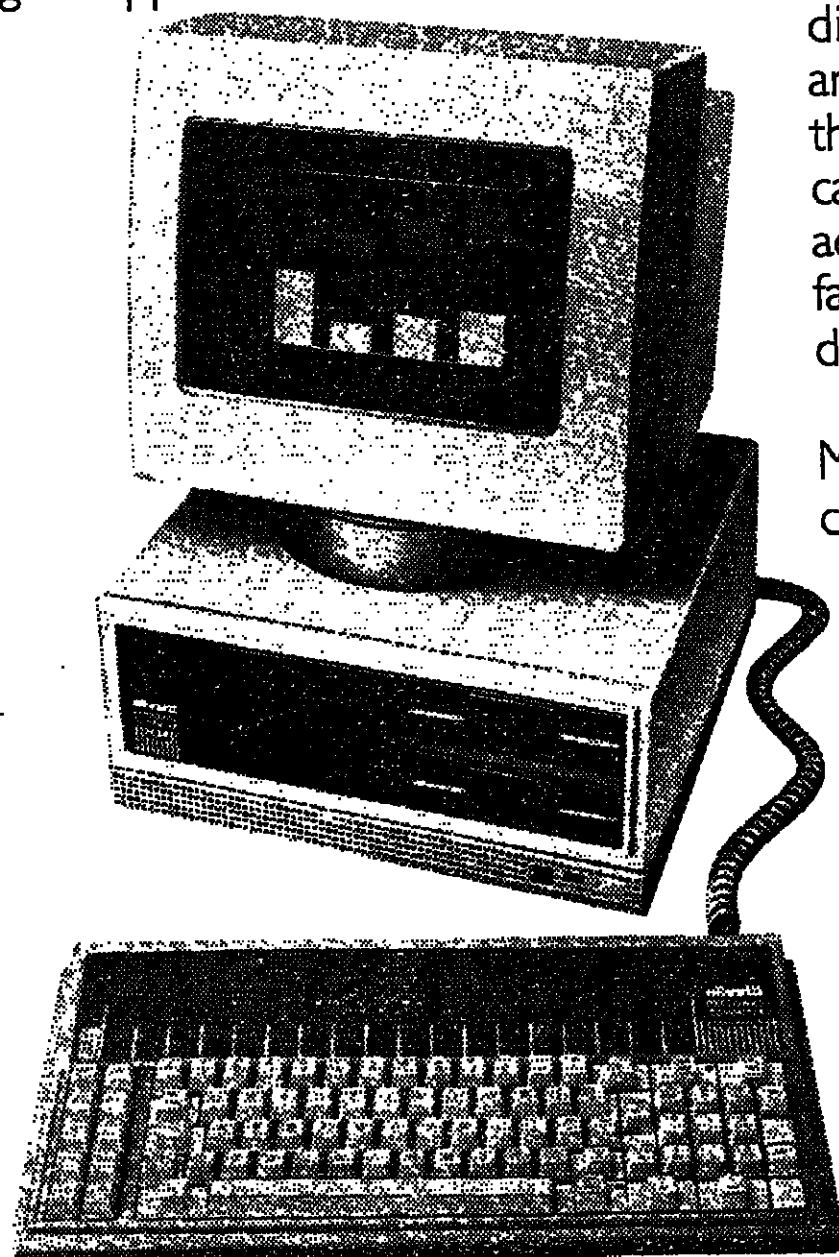
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TYPE 2128



COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

Makers must stop baffling bosses

By Charles Brett

The computer needs of an executive differ fundamentally from those of his or her secretary. The executive needs to assimilate the content of the message, while the secretary is concerned with its form - the neat letter or report.

Although computers can provide the greatest efficiencies and real savings for an executive, most are designed for the secretary.

Recent research in the United States has shown that a person familiar with a computer terminal is about seven per cent less efficient in absorbing information from a normal 24 line screen than from paper. A computer novice could be 23 per cent less efficient.

It is really a question of familiarity and design. People learn from printed words on paper - in an office normally A4 or foolscap. The standard terminal screen will represent at most 2,000 characters - half or less than a conventional paper page. Whether it is read lengthways (portrait) or sideways (landscape), the normal computer screen does not lay out the information in a familiar and easily assimilable format.

It is this inadequate technology which the makers are so busily trying to sell to their customers - apparently without much thought to the issue of assimilation. The result is that understanding in the office is being made more time-consuming and therefore expensive - the very opposite of what automation is meant to achieve. It is not surprising that automation has been most effectively introduced among typists and secretaries using word processors. Professionals and executives are either having to learn to cope with a medium more complex than paper or are ignoring technology.

Until computers can allow assimilation which is at least

Where computer firms fail

equivalent to paper, professionals and executives will have little reason to welcome them. Ironically, the basic technologies and techniques for resolving this issue are well understood, if rather expensive. Screens which can clearly display A4 documents in portrait and landscape are well known. One major manufacturer made A4 screens for its word processors. Few were bought, not surprisingly since secretaries not executives would use such screens.

Terminals enhancing assimilation need "windows", the ability to display two or more pieces of information. Thus a user could be reading one document while simultaneously referring to others.

Why then have the computer companies not emphasized assimilation? Two answers stand out: producers have not understood that the needs of the secretary/typist differ critically from the professional/executive, and manufacturing emphasizes the familiar rather than making computers which aid comprehension.

The result of this myopia is not that the automation of the office will be slow - it simply will not happen until the need for computers to help users absorb information is recognized, implemented and integrated with all the other aspects of information in the office.

The author is a consultant for P.I. International.

Australia gives software a big push

A series of computer software seminars around Britain and Ireland is being run by the Australian Trade Commission during the next six weeks as part of a campaign aimed at increasing Australian software sales. Peter Mott, senior marketing officer, said: "Australian software writers have targeted strongly towards small and medium-sized businesses, building up suites of programs aimed at particular industries. For example, the hospitality, accountancy, medical practice, real estate, and local government sectors."

Contact: Alison Rea, Communications Strategy, 25 Bedford Square, London WC1 3HG, tel: 01-580 3080.

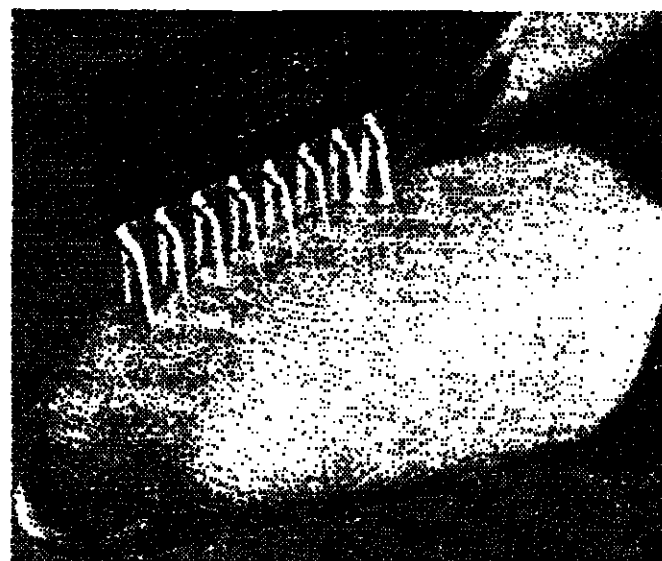
COMPUTER BRIEFING

The music machine

The computer services unit at Dorset Institute of Higher Education was launched last week with the playing of Thomas Tallis's *Spem in Alium* (16th century) by 16 of the 65 Apple Macintoshes bought from Derrill Computers. The institute will concentrate on business computing.

ATMs from Anglia

The Anglia Building Society has launched its MoneyPoint automated teller machine network in Northamptonshire and by November 40 machines will be working in various locations around Britain for cash withdrawals and deposits, balance-checking and statements. The PayPoint pilot scheme - the first cashless shopping scheme of its kind in



A new shape in the micro chip world is the sideways mounted 256K DRAM from Mitsubishi, writes Geoffrey Ellis. Its novel edge-wise configuration will allow boards to carry double the normal amount of capacity, giving the end user increased power in the same sized box. In the US what is claimed to be the first million-bit chip has been produced by AT & T. A fraction of the size of a postage stamp, it will be able to store data equal to 100 typed pages. Despite the slackening in the semiconductor business, AT & T plans to start limited production later this year.

Britain - is soon to be launched in conjunction with ICL. Ninety retailers have been signed.

£1m link at Warwick

A £1 million computer integrated manufacturing facility has been established at the University of Warwick's Department of Engineering, linking the university's Advanced Manufacturing Technology Group, Digital Equipment Company and Birmingham-based machine-tool manufacturer, Cincinnati Milacron.

DEC goes overseas

The US computer manufacturer, digital Equipment (DEC) is planning to offer its shares on selected overseas stock markets. Pier Carlo Falotti, vice-president in charge of the company's European operations, said in Cannes at the weekend that DEC, with around 56 million shares outstanding, will endeavour to spread the overseas shares as widely as possible, and to seek quotations in many of the countries where DEC is active.

If experience in the US market is any indication, the stock will be taken up largely by institutional investors. But with an increasing minority of small investors moving in as the company builds its corporate image more firmly, the company has doubled investments in Europe in one year from \$186 million (£104 million) to \$236 million.

Chinese head hunt

Computer People, the UK staff consultancy, will exhibit at the second China Projects Exhibition in Tianjin in November. It is the first time a western computer consultancy has explored the Chinese market for staff. Computer People believes many Chinese organizations need skilled people to implement systems and to train local staff.

UK events

People and Computers British Computer Society Conference, East Anglia University, Norwich, until Friday (BCS 01-637 0471). System User Show Olympia, London, September 25-27. DEC User Show Barbican, London, October 15-17. International Business Show NEC Birmingham, October 21-25. National Graphic Design Exhibition Kensington Exhibition Centre, London, October 22-25. CAD for Chemical Engineers 12 Gaylere Street, London SW1, October 30. COMPSEC 85 - Second National Computer Security Conference Anugraha Conference Centre Windsor, November 6-7. Microcomputer and Small System Security (one day seminar), Anugraha Conference Centre Windsor, November 8. Computers in the City Conference and exhibition sponsored by the Stock Exchange, Barbican Centre, November 18-22 (Online 01-688 4466).

Richard North gives his Epson baby computer a work-out in the quiet of a vineyard during his trip around some European monasteries

All quiet... so I didn't have to beat a retreat from the monks

By Richard North

Which baby computer would be the ideal companion on a long journey among the monasteries and monks of Europe? An Epson HX20 coped well with the sand and silt of an excursion to Ibiza but might not be suitable for the sodate world of the retreat.

I decided on the Dialtex-4, costing £785 with micro-cassette memory. Intext word processing and communications software - an extraordinary machine made by Epson and "divorced" by Talbot Computers of Bournemouth.

Compared with the HX20, which is about the same size but £450 cheaper, this Epson is more flexible and has a bigger screen. It has 14 times the HX20's memory, about the same as its common cousin, the Epson P88, ie. enough for the speedy manipulation and storage of 7,000 words. But the Dialtex-4 is smaller and lighter, and works faster than the £800 P88. It has a smaller screen, of about 50 words as against the P88's display - the equivalent of an A4 pageful.

Yet the flexibility and portability of the Dialtex-4 more than compensates for its compromise screen, which in any case I found perfectly manageable. It has a small port into which fits, without adding to the overall bulk, either a micro-printer (using till-roll size

paper), a RAM cartridge with 12,000-word capacity, or a micro-cassette drive, giving a 24,000-word storage capacity per MC60 tape.

The RAM memory cartridges can be unplugged from the main machine intact with the words stored on them, and an expansion box memory is available, which adds another 24,000 words of memory, and a little bulk, which is also detachable intact with stored material. The memory of the main machine can itself be programmed, into two "compartments" - a working and a storage area - of variable size.

This type of portable computer can form the basis of a desk-top system. The Dialtex-4, for instance, beyond being a good communicator with other systems down the phone (and with Telecom Gold, it becomes a telex terminal, and much else), will soon plug into an external monitor, TV, and already drives disc systems (both portable and desk-top), and stand-alone printers. There is also a range of Epson portable disc systems and printers one of which takes A4 sheets - an acceptable compromise for people who do not have to travel too light.

I am using a fairly stripped-down system. I travel with the machine with the micro-cassette drive inserted, and a portable

printer so that I can write copy ready for the typesetter. Mostly, though, my text waits in the cassettes until I get home, when I disgorge them from the Dialtex-4 into the BBC Micro, which has its big screen and disc storage. This seems a good arrangement, especially for those households which already have a micro for the children or any other reason and where portable word processing is also wanted.

As for using the Dialtex-4 on the road, it works quickly and seems sturdy and free of quirks. Its batteries are rechargeable, fine for where there is mains supply, or you can put in conventional batteries without losing words - an important point with any portable, too many of which have inaccessible "rechargeable" batteries. Some of the monasteries I stayed in had no electricity, others had weird voltages, but because I carried batteries for my personal hi-fi the Dialtex-4 always had a back-up set.

Many monasteries have computers, very useful for the complex business of plainsong sheets for all that psalmody. I certainly found that my portable was useful, not least because, being quieter than a typewriter, I could tap away on it silently late at night after we'd gone to our cells for the Great Silence.

Stock market Signal for investors

Cambridge, Massachusetts: Lotus Development has revealed plans for a product called Signal that obtains financial quotes through a radio receiver and stores them in a personal computer.

Last spring it acquired Dataspeed, California-based maker of an innovative radio to receive stock prices and other information transmitted over the little-used FM side band.

Lotus has been working on Signal since it acquired Dataspeed. The company said it plans to ship Signal next month. Lotus said users will

be able to subscribe to stock quotes - for major exchanges and over-the-counter markets - for \$125 (£100) a month.

Commodities and options prices are available at additional cost. Signal can also be set up to alert investors when stocks move by a certain amount.

Alexander Crossette, Lotus marketing manager, said he expects the product to appeal primarily to active investors, particularly commodities and options traders.

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We would like to hear from candidates in their 30's who have a background of at least 5 years in computer systems, ideally including some time in IT and/or CAD-CAM. In confidence, please write to me, Christopher Ley-Wilson, with your full C.V. or telephone Newbury (STD 0635) 32985 for an application form quoting reference 1200.

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FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING AND ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH AT IMPERIAL COLLEGE

The Alvey Directorate has approved a major programme of work in functional languages and parallel architectures to be undertaken in the Department of Computing at Imperial College. The programme comprises a set of interrelated projects involving collaboration with ICL, Plessey, GEC, British Telecom and Imperial Software Technology covering all aspects of functional languages and related architectures. Research areas involved include user interfaces, program transformation and programming environments, language design.

Applications are invited for the following posts:
Project Director (Salary scale £11,205-£14,820 + £1233 London Allowance)
Research Assistant 1A, 1B (Salary scale: £5,600-£12,150 + £1233 London Allowance)
Electronic Technician (Salary scale £7,545-£9,015 + £1233 London Allowance)
Applications for the research posts are invited from suitably qualified candidates with a background in mathematics, computing or electronics. Experience in the relevant research areas will, of course, be an advantage but is not considered essential. Preference will be given to candidates who can demonstrate proven research potential and/or implementation skills. Courses, including an Advanced MSc. in the relevant areas, are available for successful candidates.

The functional programming section at Imperial College headed by Professor John Darlington, contains many leading workers in functional languages and parallel architectures whose work has given rise to the present projects. The environment for this work at Imperial College is particularly stimulating with good relationships established with groups in Logic Programming, Theory and Software Technology. The projects will be well served with computing machinery including personal computers, VAX, ORION, ICL Series 38 model 30 and a prototype ALICE Parallel Graph Reduction Machine.

Funds are available for appointment immediately or at any time during the next four years. Applications including a full C.V., names and addresses of at least two referees and description of research interests should be sent immediately to Miss Sandra Evans, Administrative Assistant, Functional Programming and Architecture Section, Department of Computing, Imperial College, 180 Queen's Gate, London SW7 2BZ from whom further information can be obtained.

International challenge for group E.D.P. Auditor c.£20,000

The BOC Group is an international company which is either a world leader or among the world's major producers of gases and related products, healthcare products and services and carbon based products. Other interests include vacuum engineering, carbide, educational and food services.

In support of these businesses a new challenge has arisen for an E.D.P. Auditor reporting to the Group Manager Accounting Control. The key responsibilities will be:

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- Develop computer assisted audit techniques
- Develop close working relationship with Group Information Systems Department
- Develop E.D.P. training programs for audit personnel
- Co-ordinate E.D.P. audit plans with external auditors.

The successful candidate will:

- Be a graduate aged 30 or more who is a self-starter and decision maker
- Have experience of IBM computers at a systems development level (a financial background would be an advantage)

- Have the ability to translate technical knowledge into practical business solutions
- Have the ability to communicate with all levels of management
- Be able to work in a team
- Have at least 5 years' experience and be able to demonstrate a successful career to date in industry or commerce
- Be sufficiently mobile to work in the field for approximately 60% of the time, both in the UK and overseas (based at Winclesham, Surrey).

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Rita Cornfield, Manager, International Personnel Unit, The SSC Group plc, Hammersmith House, LONDON W6 8DX.

THE BOC GROUP

COMPUTER HORIZONS/3

US links as Hungary hopes for a micro revolution

By Peter Humphrey
Hungary is attempting a minor revolution in computers and electronics that could make it a world leader in eastern Europe. It will not outstrip the Soviet computer industry's military advances but it is emerging as a centre of the civilian industry in the region, western diplomats said.

Hungary is now a centre for research, development, training, software and computer seminars, and has won respect not only from its communist allies but also the West. Computers are going into schools, clubs are mushrooming, people are learning computing by television and Hungary's first cheap, easy-to-use home computers are out of the factories.

The West's high-tech embargo forced Hungary at first to focus on software — the brains side of the industry — drawing upon the famed mathematical minds of its established universities. For the masses, it started a few years ago much as it did earlier in the

West — in a craze for games. But now they are looking for ways to apply their knowledge to industry.

Jozsef Hatvany, adviser at the Computer and Automation Institute of Hungary's Academy of Sciences, says Hungary is 15 years behind the West in some ways but in others just a year.

He told Hungarian Radio: "You find workshops reminiscent of the inter-war years, badly equipped, badly organized, but morale, outdated skills. But we have factories where if you dropped in by parachute without knowing where you were, your first guess might be the United States, France or Britain." Hungary was confident that the advanced sectors would have the catalytic effect of pulling up the outdated ones, he said.

Hungarians produced M-prolog, a computer language for new generation artificial intelligence (AI) computers, adopted by Japan as the kernel language

for its AI projects. It also invented advanced applied software being used in the West. In computer applications, Hungary seems likely to reach full-scale use of electronics well before some of its allies, industry sources say.

It invested more than four billion forints (about \$80 million) in micro electronics research and development during the past four years, a huge sum for a state of only 10 million people.

The West's high-tech embargo was eased recently. Personal computers can now be exported to the East; trade sources say that Hungary seems better poised than its allies to exploit the relaxation.

Two new electronics joint ventures were set up recently with Britain. The US Honeywell Corporation is stepping up its trade with Hungary, providing micro-processors for measuring and management jobs in hotels, airports and refineries.

Reuters

Quinkey's 5 easy pieces

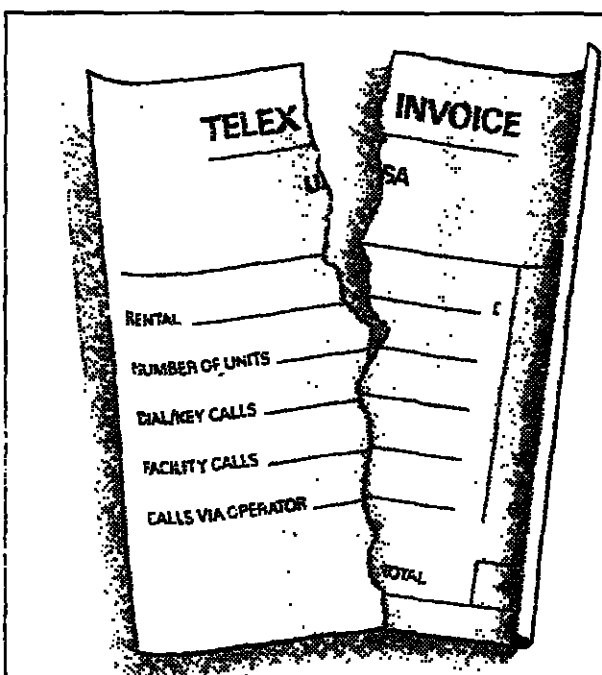


Child's play: Six-year-olds demonstrate Microwriter's Quinkey — a new alternative keyboard for the BBC Micro, featuring only five keys and a control key. A year's trials have been carried out under the supervision of Newcastle City Council initially involving 14 schools and 1,000 pupils. More than 8,000 pupils are proficient now and a further 2,400 Quinkeys are to be distributed to schools throughout Britain, supervised by the Microelectronics Education Programme. Quinkey's attraction is that up to four keyboards can be linked simultaneously to the micro and by using the software provided all the pupils have their own section of memory and screen to produce text.

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Putting the engineers in the same picture

By John Lamb

The products of many manufacturing companies are more likely to begin life on a computer screen than on a drawing board. But these electronic designs are locked in the computer-aided design systems on which they were produced because no two systems are alike.

Now companies in America and Europe are looking for a standard format into which the electronic jottings can be translated and passed from one computer to another, which would enable engineers working on joint projects in the aerospace, automobile and chemical industries to exchange designs electronically.

The best bet for a standard format so far is the Initial Graphics Exchange System (IGES) produced for the US Air Force and which enables three-dimensional geometric data to be transferred from one computer system to another.

Austin Rover has announced that it expects sub-contractors designing parts for its vehicles to submit them on IGES from next year, which would speed the exchange of designs and enable Austin Rover engineers to work on drawings submitted by outsiders on their own machines.

More features are being added to it

Leeds University is setting up what it calls the Computer-Aided Design Data Exchange Technical Centre to help companies ensure that their systems conform to the IGES format and to advise companies who plan to use the format.

Software that converts data to and from the IGES has to be produced for each system. Though IGES translators have been produced for 50 companies, many have interpreted the format in different ways, making systems incompatible. Engineers cannot be certain the drawings they receive over a telephone line or on computer tape or disc are identical to the original. Sometimes the errors are obvious — the drawing has shrunk to the size of a postage stamp — but others are more subtle and could go unnoticed.

The final form of IGES is not settled and new features are being added and it cannot handle solid models (realistic three-dimensional pictures of designs). The format, developed nine years ago, has also been

The shortcomings may yet be overcome

criticised on the ground that the files which describe the position of lines on a screen are too big and this makes translating drawing from one system to another rather slow.

IGES does not cater for information attached to drawings which describes the way a product is to be made. Manufacturing companies investing in automated factories want to amalgamate the original design drawings for a product with instructions for its production. Lack of standards that enable a manufacturer to draw on a single database about a product covering all aspects of its design and production is a major stumbling block.

The shortcomings of IGES may well be overcome. The format is currently being rewritten as an international standard. In the mean time some industrial groups have struck out on their own. Aircraft companies involved in the European Airbus project have their own format called SET, designed by the French firm Aerospatiale for a group of six different computer-aided design systems used by companies involved in the project.

SET was designed to handle data more efficiently than IGES, but it is purpose-built and not really applicable outside the aircraft business. A West German carmaker has also produced a more sophisticated version of IGES which handles solid models.

BOXING



Next stop King's Hall: The Bernard Taylor Express pulls into Belfast

King's Hall holds no terrors for McGuigan's challenger

By George Ace

Bernard Taylor, from Knoxville, Tennessee, expressed in definite terms yesterday why he feels that his World Boxing Association featherweight title bout against Barry McGuigan, at the King's Hall, Belfast, on Saturday week, will not be a mission impossible.

"I will do what I have to do to win the title," "I will fight toe to toe or box on the retreat, or have a street brawl, for nearly eight years I have been a professional fighter outside the United States."

"I will do what I have to do to win the title," "I will fight toe to toe or box on the retreat, or have a street brawl, for nearly eight years I have been a professional fighter outside the United States."

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that McGuigan defeated for the title in London last June.

"The King's Hall holds no terrors for me. When the first bell goes you are on your own, irrespective of where the fight is being staged. And I am very happy that McGuigan is facing a three to one favourite to win, I like being the underdog."

"I have never been on the floor, never been rescued by a referee, or been stopped with a cut in my entire career. McGuigan's title rightfully belongs to me, and I will prove that point on the 28th."

"As an amateur and a professional Taylor has had in excess of 500 fights and lost only eight, all during his amateur career. In 1980 he was rated as an American boxer for the gold medal at the Moscow Olympics after winning the Olympic trials. The United States subse-

quently withdrew from the Olympics and Taylor, at the age of 23, turned professional. He has won 33 out of his 34 contests in the paid ranks. 17 inside the distance, and the only blot on his record, if blot is the right word, was that draw with Pedrosa."

Harry Audia, of United States, however, he has the pedigree to take Frank Christie the full 10 rounds for the first time in his career at Alexandra Pavilion tomorrow. The Virginia banker, who is 27 and has a golf handicap of three, has won 25 of his 27 professional bouts.

He has never been stopped and Christie will be out to dent that record but may benefit from a full 10 rounds outing with a meeting against Mark Kaylor on the horizon.

David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, examines Crawford affair

Referee in walk-off highlights the pressures of his job

The best club match I saw last season was played between Bristol and Cardiff. The referee was George Crawford, who, almost exactly a year later, walked out of a match on the same Bristol ground when in an acting referee's shoes.

He left the players of Bristol and Newport last Saturday to "get on with it by themselves."

Crawford, a police superintendent, is one of the most experienced officials in the country and he will receive widespread support from referees, particularly at a lower level, up and down the country for his stand against violent play. The alternative reaction was expressed by a club official who saw Crawford's game and said: "If he couldn't handle that, what would he do in an international match?"

Almost certainly he will not now get that chance. As an Ulsterman he has been on Ireland's short list for their international referees' duties, but by ignoring the procedure laid down for referees when dealing with dangerous or foul play, he may be deemed temperamentally "unsound" to bandy internationals.

Crawford is a member of the London Society of Referees, whose committee, coincidentally, meet tonight. Their discussions, Crawford's version of the affair, and probably a report from Gloucestershire's disciplinary committee will inevitably wind up with the Rugby Football Union, whose by-laws he may be said to have infringed.

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sent off any number of individuals from both sides, or both captains.

By doing none of these things, but walking off and leaving a 10-minute interval before another referee could be found by the nearby junior game (circumstances which certainly would not have arisen in a junior game, and which have evoked cries of one law for the rich, another for the poor), Crawford may have infringed RFU bye-law 13G, which allows the union to punish any individual or body whose conduct is considered prejudicial to the interests of the union or the game.

Similar sentiments came from Alan Richards, the former Welsh international referee, who, in the current *Rothmans Rugby Yearbook*, says: "When I started my career I couldn't get out to referee quickly enough. Now the game has changed. The pressure is on you when you are refereeing badly. You are constantly under scrutiny and so are the laws you are applying. The referee's position has become unduly onerous."

Crawford described the fight which led to his action as a "street brawl". Local officials suggested they had seen much worse, which does not excuse the action of players who take the law into their own hands and abuse the fact that while referees are away, they are allowed for a certain amount of intertemperate behaviour in what is a hard physical-contact sport. Players must act with self-discipline.

By walking off Crawford deliberately made two points: first, that referees need assistance in stamping out violent play; second, that referees face considerable personal pressure because there is a general shortage of good officials and because of the disciplinary effect of physically violent players and large crowds.

"I hoped I would stand people into realizing the problems referees are faced with," he said. "I gather that afterwards there was no trouble at all. But officials and the captains of clubs must sort this incidence under the law. You can't ask referees to sort it out. Rugby's about running and scoring tries, not standing up and fighting."

Crawford echoes the plea, so frequently and vainly uttered, that clubs weed out known offenders and refrain from selecting them.

During the first week of this season, he handled three junior

games in Cornwall to help alleviate a local shortage. Indeed the shortage of referees is general at lower levels of the game all over the country. The point made to me this week was that the ranks of first-class club players, and the ranks of players necessarily make good referees, but at least they have a valuable background.

Crawford is an amateur official in an amateur game. "I go out on Saturdays for enjoyment, I travel long distances for a pie and a pint, and I don't want to know," he said.

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EQUESTRIANISM

No business like show jumping for slick Skelton

From a Special Correspondent, Calgary, Canada

Nick Skelton turned the Spruce Meadows Masters tournament here into his own benefit show, with two wins on the final day on Sunday, including the valuable Maurer Grand Prix, which was worth approximately 38,000 to the winner.

Skelton had been outstandingly brilliant throughout the five-day tournament, that had brought top riders from all the leading show jumping nations to Spruce Meadows, and he jumped two more flawless rounds to win the ground prize on Everest St James.

John Whitaker on Hopscotch, who made one mistake at the water, was the only other Briton among the top 12 who qualified to jump again — this time in the reverse order of merit. Those four faults were carried forward, but with only four horses clear in the first round, there was a possibility that Whitaker would be needed for a jump-off after Hopscotch had gone clear over the second course.

Mano Deslauriers, of Canada, on

Aramis, and Ian Millar on Big Ben, who were both clear first time, joined those on a total of four faults. Three had been a loud sigh of disappointment from Big Ben, with crowd of 30,000 when the capacity of the stands left to jump for a clear round, toppled the final fence.

Skelton then jumped the first double clear and it proved to be the only one when Laura Balisky on Lavendel 48, also a jumping for Canada, made one mistake. Overall time decided the placings of those who finished on four faults, leaving Whitaker fourth.

Skelton's earlier win in the Canada Wire and Cable Patrons' Chase on Everest, Apollo, had been worth nearly £5,000, giving him a splendid total of about £44,000 for the one day.

RESULTS: Du Maurier Grand Prix, 1. Skelton on Apollo, 2. Balisky on Lavendel 48, 3. Whitaker on Hopscotch, 4. Deslauriers on Mano, 5. Whitaker on Hopscotch, 6. Balisky on Lavendel 48, 7. Whitaker on Hopscotch, 8. Deslauriers on Mano, 9. Whitaker on Hopscotch, 10. Balisky on Lavendel 48, 11. Whitaker on Hopscotch, 12. Deslauriers on Mano.

BASKETBALL

Uxbridge start their struggle to stay up

By Nicholas Harling

Opening fixtures do not come harder for newly promoted clubs than a visit to the champions and so it was for Brunel Uxbridge and Camden, who duly discovered for themselves at the weekend what life at the top is all about.

Kingston, playing for the first time under the guise of Team Polytech, had far too much experience and craft for the newcomers, but considering that Uxbridge were without both Julio Politi, their Argentinean, who is awaiting dual national status, and Martin Walters, who was best man at his brother's wedding, they did surprisingly well. Uxbridge even had to eke out a 30-24 lead after 13 minutes but within another two minutes, Kingston were leading by seven and they went on to win 104-82.

For David Titmuss, Uxbridge's new coach, the fixture was the last one with which he had wanted to begin a three-year contract. He had done his best not to convey his worst fears to his players. "This was their Waterloo," he said, acknowledging their positive response. Yet Titmuss, formerly coach at Hemel Hempstead, had to be a realist. "Our priority has got to be stay up," he said, "but when I look through other team's rosters, I can see that there is not a weak team in the first division."

David Titmuss has two outstanding new Americans to help him. Dale Roberts and Brian Kelly, who sank 60 three-pointers last season, had Kelly, who has been recruited from the Georgia Institute of Technology, a former basketball star at Georgia Tech, and a former basketball star at Georgia Tech, and a former basketball star at Georgia Tech.

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Architectural consultants: the people

The Times and the Royal Institute of British Architects yesterday announced an annual award for community architecture projects in the United Kingdom. In a message welcoming the launch, the Prince of Wales returned boldly to a favourite, if controversial theme...

A move to set new standards in housing

The following is the text of the message from the Prince of Wales for the Times/RIBA Community Enterprise Scheme: When I made a few remarks about architecture at the Royal Institute of British Architects last year I had little idea of what I was letting myself in for. They'll never ask me back, I thought. But they have, as you can see, even though I am sadly unable to attend this important occasion in person.

The first response from architects to what I had said was very critical. I was called "Philistine", "reactionary", "Stalinist". The positive observations I tried to make on what is known as community architecture were at first ignored. (Architects, I'm afraid, make better headlines than communists.)

However, this balance is now being redressed and The Times/RIBA Community Enterprise Scheme will give the many dedicated pioneers of this approach, where architects and a community of clients work in partnership, the public esteem they richly deserve and, hopefully, will encourage others to have a go.

All the same, I feel I owe you a word of explanation about what I had in mind when I made that speech last year, and why I believe the community architecture approach is so important. We all recognize the contribution of professional expertise to society, but there has been a real danger of professional arrogance develop-

ing (and not just in architecture) the "we know best" approach. This must be fought at every turn because it makes people dependent rather than independent and can lead directly to the nightmare of the "well-intentioned" concrete jungle, with all its human frustrations and dangers.

Talking to the residents of community architecture schemes on my visits during the past year I have heard again and again that their community architects have helped them to find a way out by enabling them to create the kind of surroundings they are proud to live in and wish to care for. (If only it had been tried 30 years ago; there might have been fewer concrete canyons...)

But I have also seen that it fosters in those communities a tremendous spirit of independence, achievement and a release of creative energy which I hope will contribute towards a solution of the broader problems of our inner cities, and not just those of housing.

Crucial to community architecture is the role of the architect's form-giving function. A far greater danger, it seems to me, is of some people jumping on the community architecture bandwagon without being prepared to put in the time and patience to acquire a really profound understanding of their clients' needs, or to show any architectural flair in their designs. Community architecture is not just practising architecture in the community; it is also about setting new, higher standards in professional service, and this is what I hope The Times/RIBA Scheme will help to achieve.



Mr David Innes Wilkin, Mr Ben Downie and Danielle Pacaud (foreground, left to right), community architects who worked with tenants of the Hesketh Street housing co-operative project in Liverpool (Photograph: The Architect's Journal).

How community enterprise scheme will operate

An award or awards will be made for the most imaginative, viable and need-fulfilling community projects in the United Kingdom. The aim is to encourage community initiatives of all kinds where local enthusiasm and drive have been advanced with the support and assistance of community architects or other members of the environmental professions.

The Prince of Wales is patron of the 1985-86 awards. Eligibility should be in the process of being developed or built and should have passed

the feasibility stage at the time of entry, and should be completed before December 31, 1985, will not be eligible.

Entries Any member of the community may enter a project, including architects, community organizations, builders, banks, local authorities, etc. An official entry form must be used and received by the RIBA by October 31, 1985.

Assessors The chairman of the assessors is Dr Rod Hackney, a community architect in Maclesfield, Cheshire. The other assessors are: Mr Andrew Derbyshire, architect, London; Mrs Sarah Hogg, economics editor, and Mr Charles Knevit, Architecture

Correspondent, The Times; Mr John Lane, community architect, Glasgow; Ms Sheila McKee, director, Shelter; Mr Maureen Reid, community organizer, Southampton; and Mr Anthony Shillingford, Business in the Community.

Selection Shortlisted entries will be visited by the assessors. Entry will be judged on the extent of community involvement in the initiation and development of the project, the process by which it has reached its present stage, its value to the community, the environmental

quality bearing in mind limitations on finance and future plans for maintenance and running. Coverage The Times proposes to publish regular reports on the shortlisted entries during the assessment period.

Further details, conditions of entry and entry forms may be obtained from: Lynne Hutton, Co-ordinator CES 85-86, Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London W1N 4AD. Telephone: 01-580 5533.

Reparations deal for victims of crime

Continued from Page 1

The probation service tries to negotiate reparation with the victim and, if it is agreed, the police will usually caution the offender instead of prosecuting.

There are signs from Leeds, which has a reputation for some serious offenders such as those convicted of burglary or assault, that reparation need not be limited to mild offenders, convicted for example of theft or criminal damage.

The cost of the schemes varies from £15,000 to £35,000 a year for each of two years. In the City of York, the scheme suitable offenders will first be identified. They are likely to be over 16 years old and have been found guilty of burglary, theft, criminal damage or minor violence.

If they look likely candidates, the court will not pass sentence immediately. Instead, it will adjourn the proceedings for 28 days and refer the case to the co-ordinator, an ex-police superintendent, asking for a social inquiry report, so that supervised mediation between the victim and offender can take place.

Angry Thatcher orders out six more Russians

Continued from page 1

cow. As this did not happen it was decided the others should also be told to go.

Until last Thursday Britain had put a ceiling of 254 on the number of Soviet officials permitted to work in Britain, of which 39 were accredited diplomats at the embassy. This figure was reduced to 211 after last Thursday's expulsions (two of the 25 Russians expelled then were working for international organizations and were not therefore covered by the ceiling).

However, the FCO at the same time offered to allow the complement of accredited diplomats in the reduced total from 39 to 46. This offer has not been taken up.

Last night's expulsions were denounced as "plain overkill" by Mr George Robertson, a Labour Party foreign affairs spokesman, who said that "two wrongs don't make a diplomatic right".

Letter from Eastern Europe No fun in the sun for the comrades

Under the punishing sun of the Bulgarian Black Sea coast, the communist Côte d'Azur, the beachgoers, be they from Bydgoszcz, Berlin or Bradford, burn equally, turning quite independently of ideology, a scorched, porcine red or wholemeal brown. But as the Soviet bloc holidaymakers return to their work sites, as the sunbathers begin to flake, so a different, depressing picture emerges from their holiday anecdotes. While the British and West Germans spend their time in Yarna and Burgas, in a haze of cheap alcohol, stumbling between discotheques worthy of Toronto, the East European tourists feel as if they have been treated like refugees from Hurricane Margaret.

A typical complaint: This summer a Polish family of four paid some 150,000 zlotys (about £800 at the official rate) for a package holiday near Druzhba. Druzhba, meaning "friendship", potential, in the first instance for travellers from Comecon. The resort is now entirely orientated towards westerners and their cash while the East Europeans are used to fill up the cracks.

The family found that it had been parked a 20-mile bus ride away from the nearest usable beach (and even then they had to pay an entrance fee), their holiday bungalow had only the most primitive sanitary conditions ("A hole in the ground") and their meal tokens entitled them to eat only in a top price restaurant. The token just about covered a bowl of soup and the service.

East Germans suffer most Or perhaps one should say "service". Once the waiters sent a Comecon tourist they develop humps and selective deafness, stare out of windows for hours like idle schoolboys. "We sat at our table for 25 minutes, recalls one Pole, "while the waiter sat opposite, one table away, picking his teeth with a knife like a bayonet." British comedy writers have been made on thinner material.

All Socialist bloc countries have a "tapper" limit, usually low, as to how much currency can be exchanged for Bulgarian leva; but in Poland at least the black market provides some elasticity. Gangs - informal

banking syndicates really - wave from Poland to Burgas and Yarna with bags full of leva exchanged on the Warsaw black market and then convert, in swift poolside deals with Westerners, into dollars and Deutschmarks. The dollar rate on the Bulgarian black market is more favourable than in Poland and guarantees a profit.

But most East European tourists are strapped for cash. East Germans probably suffer the most. They bring their own tomatoes and eggs, gingerly preserved during the two-day train journey, and spend their holidays staring enviously at the seafood cafes. They can exchange only the equivalent of about 30 leva a day and with the beach at the Druzhba Grand Hotel costing 2.4 leva just for entrance, there is not much leeway.

Bicycles bring a good price

Like the Poles, they bring goods to trade. The Poles bring cosmetics and bedspreads for black market deals. The East Germans, if they come in their Wartburgs, bring bicycles which can sometimes fetch a good price.

Bulgaria was one of the few places where East Germans could meet relatives living in West Germany. Families divided by the Berlin Wall could be united briefly on the Black Sea coast on joint vacations, but nowadays this practice is rare. If East Germans are seen supping in expensive hotels or cafes, other members of their travel group become immediately suspicious. They must be consorting with Westerners. "It's not konaki", a politically dangerous disease.

In short, East Europeans feel they are being handled like damaged goods in their own backyard summer resorts. The Bulgarians shrug as if to say: "We all have to live and hard currency is the name of the game in mass tourism."

And, if the Poles, Czechs and East Germans feel hard done by, they can always stay at home and soak up their own sun. What? The sun does not shine so strongly on north? How odd. How very odd.

Roger Boyes

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, The Gloucestershire Regiment (visits the 1st Battalion, Bufford 17 Range, Salisbury Plain, 10).

The Duchess of Gloucester visits New York to attend the Royal Oak Foundation's Durrant Ball in aid of the City of India Museum at Pwells Castle, N Wales, departs Heathrow, 12.10.

The Duchess of Kent visits Buntingford, Cambs, departs RAF Lossiemouth, 12.10.

New exhibitions

Now the War is Over: Museum of London, London W6C2, Tues to Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (ends Dec).

Original paintings: Small is beautiful: Chichester House Gallery, High St, Ditchling, Sussex, Tues to Sat 10 to 1 and 2.30 to 5 ends Oct 12.

Sculptors drawings: MacRobert Arts Centre, University of Stirling, Mon to Sat 11 to 6, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Oct 21).

Exhibitions in progress Sail on Canvas: Gray Art Gallery and Museum, Clarence Rd, Hartlepool, Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 3 to 5 ends Nov 17.

Images of Africa: Walsall Museum and Art Gallery, Central Library, Lichfield St, Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45 (ends Oct 21).

Regent's Park by the sea: early paintings of St Leonards Museum, Regent's Park, London, Mon to Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5, Sun 3 to 5 (ends Oct 20).

German Print Season: The Print in Germany, and German expressionist prints: Gallery of Modern Art, Bedford Rd, Edinburgh, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Oct 27).

Managerial: Animal sculpture: Ramsgate Library Gallery, Guildford Lane, Ramsgate, Mon to Wed 9.30 to 6, Thurs 9.30 to 5, Fri 9.30 to 8, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends Oct 12).

Hartnell: Clothes by the Royal Couturier 1930s-1960s: Museum of Costume, Bennett St, Bath, Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5.30, Sun 11 to 5 (ends Feb 86).

Confessions of an English Opium Eater: Wordsworth Museum, Grasmere, Mon to Sat 9.30 to 5.30, Sun 11 to 5.30 (ends Oct 31).

Music St Leonards Festival: Recital of carols, English music by the Deller Consort: St Leonard Parish Church, E Sussex, 7.30.

Organ recital by Gerard Brooks: Oxford Town Hall, 1.05.

Organ recital by Ronald Frost: St Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45.

Organ recital by David Turner and William Walk: Headingly Lane, Leeds, 8.

Recital by the Cull String Quartet: Festiwole College, 8.

Burlington House Fair: Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, W1, 11 to 7 (ends Sept 22).

Chelsea Antiques Fair: Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Rd, 11 to 7 (ends Sept 21).

Autumn Bloom: Autumn flower show: Royal Horticultural Society, 10 to 7, Thurs 10 to 7 (ends Sept 19).

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending September 8.

- 1 Coronation Street (Mon), Granada, 8.15pm
- 2 The Saturday Night Takeaway Show (Sat), Granada, 10.15pm
- 3 The Saturday Night Takeaway Show (Sat), Granada, 10.15pm
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1 Open All Hours, 18.15pm
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Sponsorships 1986

A booklet giving details of companies and organisations willing to sponsor young people embarking on first degrees. BTEC or "TOVE" higher awards has been published by the Careers and Occupational Information Centre. The booklet is distributed free to all schools, public libraries, career offices and colleges. Additional copies may be purchased from Manpower Services Commission, Dept CW, 18CV, The Paddock, Warrington, Cheshire, WA9 6AD, price £1.50 (including p & p).

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